COMPLIMENTARY ISSUE! THE SHOPPER'S GUIDE TO NEW PRODUCTS

FirstGlimpseMag.com

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July 2010 • Complimentary Copy

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FIRST GLIMPSE COMPACT GADGETS JULY 2010

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FirstGlimpse®

Product Coverage Inquiries
products@firstglimpsemag.com
(800) 247-4880
131 West Grand Drive
Lincoln, NE 68521

Circulation
(To adjust your bulk order or to request racks.)
marketing@firstglimpsemag.com
(800) 334-7458

Customer Service
(For questions about your subscription, to place an order, or change an address.)
customer-service@firstglimpsemag.com
(800) 733-3809
FAX: (402) 479-2193

First Glimpse
P.O. Box 82545
Lincoln, NE
68501-5380

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The Connected Home

Discover New Possibilities With Today's Technology

TODAY A WIDE VARIETY of digital devices and technologies work together to make all kinds of information available whenever and wherever you need it. Stream movies to your home theater; download photos from a relative overseas to a photo frame in your living room; or upload music from your MP3 player to your car. Whatever you want to do, there's a product out there to help you do it. Use this digital home blueprint to identify the types of things you want to do, and then go to the appropriate pages to learn about related products and technologies.

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For many of us, a cell phone is a daily companion. To get the most out of this device, look for accessories in our Portable Devices section.

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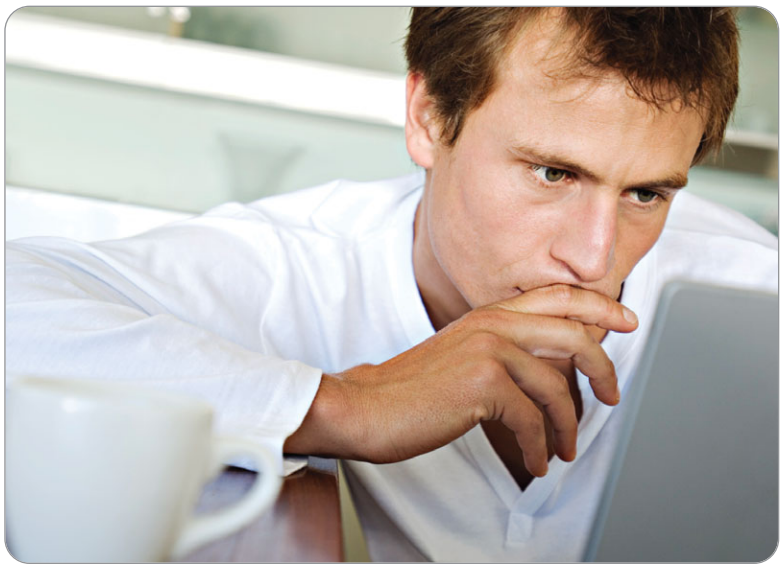
Audio & Video That Go With You

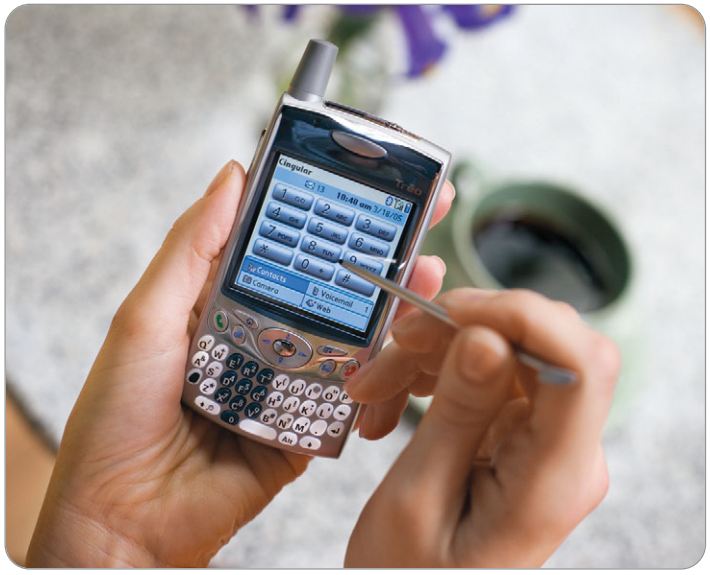
ce news

COMPILED BY ANDREW LEIBMAN

There's No Slowing Spam

Google's hosted security and archiving service provider Postini reports that spam volumes in the first quarter of this year were roughly 6% higher than the same period last year. Even after spam fighters managed to sideline 3FN, a service provider notorious for supporting botnets, spam levels recovered in a matter of weeks. The closure of another shady ISP, Real Host, only knocked spam on its heels for two days. Security firms managed to stem the tide of spam between Q4 2009 and Q1 2010, forcing levels down by 12%, but year over year, the 2010 numbers were higher.





Smartphones Are Hotter Than Ever

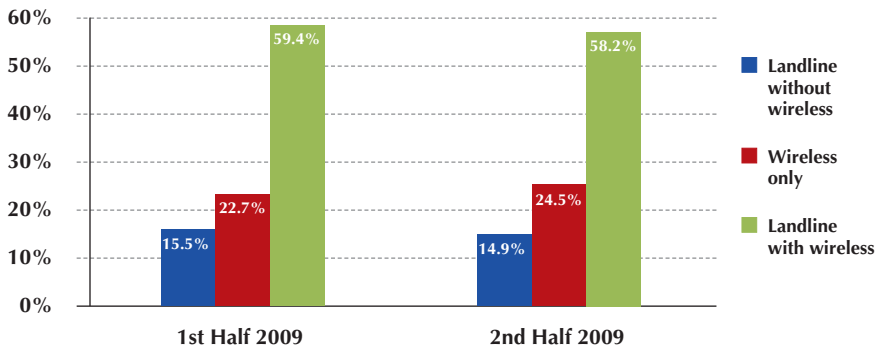
According to IDC's Worldwide Quarterly Mobile Phone Tracker, smartphone shipments grew 56.7% in Q1, and the firm believes 2010 will be another banner year for the handheld devices. Nokia shipped the most phones, 21.5 million, followed by RIM, which shipped 10.6 million BlackBerrys. Apple shipped 8.8 million iPhones in Q1, which represents a 132% rise (the highest increase of the bunch) compared to the same period in 2009. HTC shipped 2.6 million phones, and Motorola shipped 2.3 million. In total, 54.7 million smartphones shipped globally in Q1 2010, up from the 34.9 million devices that shipped in Q1 2009.

m a r k e t p l a c e

One In Four Households Are Mobile-Only

The CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) recently revealed that during the last half of 2009, 24.5% of U.S. households relied on a wireless phone only and did not subscribe to landline-based phone services. The report also shows that roughly 52 million adults (22.9%) lived in households with only wireless phones. This represents a 4.3% increase compared to the last half of 2008, and the numbers from 2008 showed a 4.4% increase compared to 2007. Another 15% of households had a landline but used a mobile phone the majority of the time. The CDC also reports that approximately 2% of households had no telephone service of any kind.

What Are People Using To Make Calls?

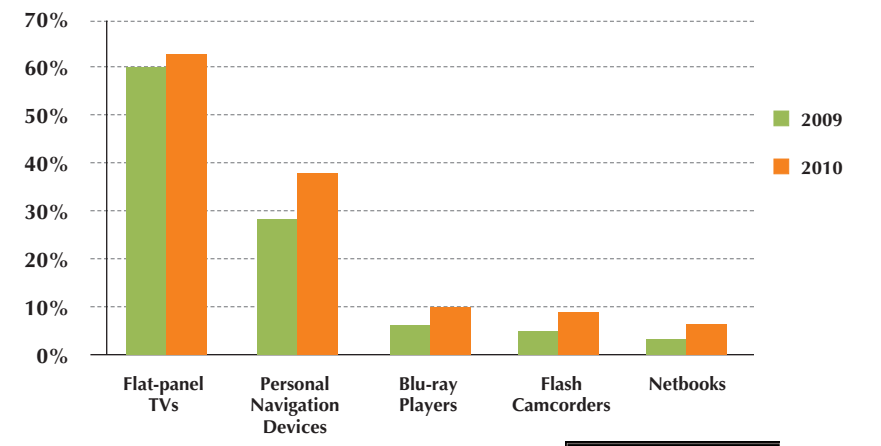


Source: CDC

Hot Gadgets

According to The NPD Group's latest Consumer Technology Household Online Penetration Study, some CE categories were more popular with shoppers this year. It found a 3% increase in flat-panel TV adoption, and standalone BD players grew from 6% in 2009 to 11% in 2010. Netbooks grew from 4% to 8%. Flash camcorders rose from 5% in 2009 to 10% in 2010. Portable navigation device adoption also increased from 30% to 40% since last year.

2010 Consumer Electronics Household Penetration



Source: The NPD Group

tidbits

The most recent unit sales numbers show that plasma TVs are still popular among large-sized (40 inches and greater) flat-panel TVs. Plasma TV shipments climbed 14% between Q1 2009 and Q1 2010. LCD TV unit sales, however, jumped just 6% during the same period.

Source: Quixel Research

Online cloud storage is set to be raking in the dough over the next five years. ABI Research reports that revenue from cloud-based backup and storage service providers is expected to explode from $75 million in 2009 to more than $372 million in 2015.
Source: ABI Research

A new study about social media mistakes finds that a whopping 32% of those surveyed said they have posted something online that they later wish they hadn't. Of those, 3% reported that the comment disrupted their marriage or relationship, and 6% admitted that the ill-advised update made things difficult at home or in the office.

Source: Retrevo

In-Stat found that Wi-Fi will be a feature in more than 200 million units by 2014. The firm also reports that cell phones will remain the highest volume Wi-Fi-enabled device by 2014, and Internet tablet devices will grow to almost 50 million units by 2014. By 2013, the Wi-Fi device Total Available Market will surpass a mind-boggling 3 billion units.
Source: In-Stat

Sony's BRAVIA HX800 HDTVs With 3D

Brace Yourself For More Than Two Dimensions

Sony's newest line of HDTVs with 3D are designed to create an intense three-dimensional visual experience. So, if you're ready to take on what 3D technology has to offer, look no further than the Sony Bravia HX800 3D TV series ($2,099.99 to $3,399.99; www. sonystyle.com).

Look for Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs on Blu-ray 3D™!

Screen image simulated.

Sony® BRAVIA® HX800 LED Backlit LCD HDTV with 3D
40-inch $2,099.99
46-inch $2,699.99
55-inch $3,399.99
www.sonystyle.com

HX800 & Beyond

Not only does the BRAVIA HX800 Series HDTV with 3D feature incredible Full HD 1080p picture quality for your 2D entertainment but it also capable of playing 3D movies, 3D games and 3D sports for an experience unlike anything you've seen before. To start enjoying a new depth in content on a Bravia HX800 3D TV, you'll need a 3D-capable Blu-ray Disc Player (such as Sony's BDP-S470), PlayStation 3 gaming console, or other 3D-capable source plus a Sony 3D sync transmitter and 3D active glasses.

Sony's Motionflow PRO 240Hz technology LED backlight technology ensures that you see the bright whites and sharp dark scene detail in every scene.

Theater Eco-System

Sony also incorporated energy-saving features into the HX800 3D TVs with power setting options such as BackLight Off Mode, Dynamic Backlight Control, an Energy Saving Switch, and Idle TV Standby. All three HX800 models are also Energy Star-qualified, which means they use 30% less energy than standard TVs and can lower your utility bill.

Complete Connectivity

Giving you the ultimate in connectivity options, the HX800 Series HDTVs with 3D are Wi-Fi adapter ready and equipped, which lets you stream a variety of entertainment from Netflix, YouTube, Slacker, Pandora, and more. They're also DLNA (Digital Living Network Appliance) compatible, allowing you to access and share photo, video, and music files from your DLNA devices, such as your PC or PS3, to your HDTV's screen.

Boldly Going Further

For those who want a step up from the HX800 series and to move to an LED backlit HDTV with built-in 3D capabilities, Sony's Bravia LX900 Series HDTV with 3D built in offers a 52- and 60-inch model ($3,999.99 and $4,999.99, respectively). With the press of a single remote control button, you can watch as your favorite 2D shows and movies are converted into 3D entertainment. On top of this, the LX900 series incorporates an Intelligent Presence Sensor with Face Detection that turns off your HDTV when it senses no one is in the room.

Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs © 2009 Sony Pictures Animation Inc. All Rights Reserved.

HOW TO BUY

The Right HDTV Screen Technology

Three Technologies, One Choice

HDTV is practically synonymous with flat-panel TV these days. Flat screens are by far the most popular sets on the market. New TV technologies are always on the horizon, but right now there are three to choose from. Let's go over factors about each one that may sway your buying decision.

LED

- LED is similar to LCD, but instead of using fluorescent backlighting to illuminate the picture, it uses lots of small light-emitting diodes.
- Because these LEDs can dim or turn off where the picture is dark, a process called local dimming, the screen does a much better job of rendering black tones.
- LED combines most of the advantages of LCD with plasma's superior contrast ratio.
- LED is a much newer, more advanced technology, so it comes at a higher price than an equivalent LCD.
- They best fit a green lifestyle, because they consume less power and generate less heat.

LCD

- LCD offers by far the widest selection of screen sizes and models.
- The picture is quite bright, so it often has better clarity in a well-lit room.
- LCD TVs don't use glass screens, so there's no problem with reflections or glare.
- One potential drawback is the contrast ratio—the range of blackest blacks to whitest whites. Because the fluorescent backlighting is always on, LCDs can't render pure blacks.

Plasma

- Plasma is widely regarded as having a picture most like that of a tube TV, with unsurpassed contrast and color fidelity.
- It has the widest viewing angle, so if you have several people watching from different locations in the room, a plasma will keep everyone happy.
- Plasma TVs are much heavier than same-sized LCD sets, demanding more care and stability for wall-mounting.
- They consume more power, may emit a buzz at high altitudes, and the glass screen can catch a glare from light sources.

BY BRIAN HODGE

Meet The New 3D TV

A New Dimension In Home Entertainment

"Avatar." "Alice In Wonderland." "Coraline." "Up." The 3D hits are coming hard and fast from Hollywood, with the result that movie lovers are packing the theaters in droves.

The big difference with 3D's latest resurgence is that you can now bring the technology home with you. In addition to regular programming, with a 3D-compatible HDTV and special eyewear, you can experience the thrilling impact of three-dimensional entertainment right in your home theater.

To see a 3D image on a compatible HDTV, you typically need to wear special eyewear with LCD shutter lenses that change between opaque and clear many times per second. Synchronized to the TV, the eyewear displays alternating images for your left and right eyes, creating the illusion of depth in the picture.

What Is 3D TV?

A 3D TV (about $2,000 and up) is an enhanced LED-backlit LCD or plasma HDTV. With a high screen refresh rate, such as 240Hz, a 3D TV can change its picture fast enough to present two different images for each frame of video.

The magic happens when you put on compatible eyewear ($149.99 and up). Timed to the 3D TV's refresh rate, the eyewear alternately blocks one eye's view while allowing the other to see the picture for an instant. This shutter action happens so rapidly that it's practically imperceptible, but it fools your eyes into believing that there's remarkable depth in your movie or TV show.

BY MARTY SEMS

Media Streaming Basics

Entertainment From A Distance

Streaming lets you enjoy a video clip or music file on a device even though the file is stored on another device, either on your home network or across the Web. Instead of fully copying the media file to your device and then starting to play it, streaming generally plays the video or song as it downloads. And unlike traditional downloading or file transfers, streaming doesn't leave a copy of the song or movie on your device afterward.

Streaming Examples

- Certain HDTVs can stream video from a networked computer or a NAS (network-attached storage) device.
- A Internet-connectable BD (Blu-ray Disc) player may display streaming movies from an online subscription service.
- Your teen's gaming console may be able to play content stored on your wirelessly networked laptop.

What's On(line)?

- Video Web sites
- Internet radio
- TV channel sites
- Subscription movie services

What You Need

1. A device to stream to:

- Recent game consoles, PCs and HTPCs (home-theater PCs), media extenders, set-top boxes, BD players, and HDTVs are all candidates.
- Noncomputer devices can only stream certain file formats from particular sources.
- On a PC/HTPC, you'll need a free or for-pay media player program and a Web browser.

2. A fast broadband Internet connection and/or a PC or NAS to stream from:

- Photos, videos, and/or music files are stored on these devices.
- A free or for-pay media server program can translate your media files into the formats your target streaming device can understand.

3. A network:

- A wired network (Ethernet or powerline) will generally give you the smoothest results.
- Wi-Fi is vulnerable to interference, but it is easy to set up.
- Internet congestion and outages can cause online streaming media to pause until the data stream resumes.

4. A TV and/or sound system that's connected to your streaming device to enjoy entertainment on

BY MARTY SEMS

Future-Proof Your Home-Theater Purchase

Spend Wisely For The Long Term

Everyone wants the most bang for their buck, but it's wise to apply that sentiment to the long term. When every dollar counts, it's smart to buy home-theater components that will last you a long, long time. That means buying quality, but it also means buying technologies that won't become obsolete anytime soon. Here's a list of examples.

HT Video Devices

Your HDTV should support the best high-def resolution around. Get a 1080p set, which is backward-compatible with other resolutions, including 1080i, 720p, and 480i.

Your HDTV should also have multiple HDMI ports. An HDMI cable will give you top-quality video and audio, and the newest standard, HDMI 1.4, can even be used with 3D content.

A BD player is more future-proof than a DVD player, as it can play high-def 2D and 3D Blu-ray Discs and upconvert DVDs to look their best on an HDTV. Also note that a 3D BD player can play 2D discs. Choose a model with an Internet connection and BD-Live capability, which lets you access updated content online and exclusive features.

HT Audio Devices

Most BD players can decode (play back) audio stored on BD movies in formats such as Dolby Digital Plus, but not all players can handle every format in full surround sound. It's better to rely on a high-quality multichannel sound system with an HDMI 1.4 connection. Buy an audio receiver with full support for 7.1-channel DTS-HD Master Audio and Dolby Digital TruHD, as it will be backward-compatible with 5.1-channel playback and lesser formats such as DTS and Dolby Digital.

As for a wireless music system from vendors such as Sonos, choose one that's expandable with additional receivers, backward- and forward-compatible with the manufacturer's add-ons, and comes with free updates.

Other HT Devices

Get a DVR that supports HD, so that you can play back recorded high-def shows at their top quality. Make sure that your DVR supports an external hard drive, so you can add more capacity for recorded programs later.

A media extender frees up all the photos and videos on your family's PCs and lets you stream them to your HDTV. For minimal interruptions, look for a media extender that supports the 802.11n standard.

Some Internet TV set-top boxes and BD players also stream video from download services such as Netflix and CinemaNow.

BY MARTY SEMS

ESSENTIAL THINGS TO KNOW

Surge Protectors & Power Conditioners

Q Why do I need protection against power surges?

A Your home-theater equipment can be irreparably damaged by excess voltage from the fluctuations of energy that occur when high-power devices cycle on or off. Power surges might also occur because of bad wiring and lightning strikes or when the electrical company performs maintenance.

Q What is the difference between a surge protector and a power conditioner?

A Surge protectors monitor the energy coming into your equipment to prevent damage from overvoltage. Power conditioners monitor voltage and filter out electronic noise that can reduce your home theater's audio and video quality.

Q How does a surge protector or power conditioner differ from a UPS (uninterruptable power supply)?

A An uninterruptable power supply protects your devices against voltage surges and delivers interference-free power to your home theater, but these also feature a built-in battery that allows the connected devices to continue running to give you time to properly shut them off.

Q What is a joule rating?

A It's the amount of watts a surge protector or power conditioner will be able to absorb over one second before it fails. The higher the joule rating, the more excess voltage it can stop from reaching your hardware.

Q What is clean power?

A Power conditioners often use the term "clean power" to indicate that they remove and reject electrical noise. A power signal filled with noise is often coined "dirty power."

Q What types of noise can cause interference?

A Power signals can be affected by EMI (electromagnetic interference) that leaks out of power cords and devices as well as RFI (radio frequency interference) from electronics that release radio waves, such as microwaves and radios.

Q Can I protect my cable TV or antenna signal from power spikes and interference?

A Yes, if the surge protector or power conditioner offers inputs and outputs for Coax cable.

Q Do I need to protect the phone lines that run to my DVR or cable box?

A Power spikes can come through your phone line, so it'd be wise to invest in a surge protector or power conditioner that can handle phone connections.

Q What is voltage regulation, and is it important?

A It's the ability to prevent your components from receiving too little or too much power. Home-theater equipment requires consistent power for optimum performance, and the sensitive components may suffer damage when not enough or too much voltage is delivered. Most power conditioners provide both under- and over-voltage regulation.

Yes, You Need To Calibrate

Get Optimal HDTV Video Results

Why A Professional Calibration?

- A calibration DVD might be a tempting alternative, but it won't let you adjust all of your HDTV's settings. An ISF-certified professional can access advanced service menus to calibrate your TV correctly. These settings aren't meant to be experimented with, so if you poke around and gain access to your TV's service menu, it's best to leave it alone. Many people have rendered their TVs useless because they didn't heed this warning.

- Calibration specialists are ISF (Imaging Science Foundation)-certified, which means they are trained to use highly specialized and expensive equipment to calibrate HDTVs correctly.

Your Video May Not Be All That It Seems

- Most TVs are shipped with a set standard video mode meant for an electronics store display—this means that the TV's settings are adjusted to show the best picture in a bright, fluorescent-lit environment. Because it's unlikely your lighting at home matches the store's surroundings, you should have your TV professionally calibrated by an ISF-certified specialist to accommodate your home's unique lighting environment.

- An HDTV's viewing angle and your home-theater setup also affect how your HDTV should be calibrated. An ISF-certified professional takes these factors into account when making adjustments.

- Although you can expect to budget 10 to 15% of the purchase price of your television for a professional calibration, consider it an entertainment investment that will pay dividends for years to come.

What You Can Expect

- A calibration session includes two inputs on the set, so no matter which you use, you will get the best image clarity and sharpness your HDTV can provide.

- A professional will use color analyzer equipment to objectively tune color saturation and temperature as precisely as possible, letting you see video exactly the same way it looked when it was created.

- Your HDTV's contrast will be set up to provide greater video detail as well as the darkest blacks and brightest whites.

HDTVs

Screen Technology Differences

LCD (liquid-crystal display)

LCDs can use one of two backlight technologies. CCFLs (cold cathode fluorescent lamps) are the most common, but LEDs are the latest backlight technology to hit the LCD scene. (See the "LED" section for more info on LED TVs.)

Pros

- The thin profiles and light weight of LCDs make them easy to mount on a wall.
- Power demands are a bit lower than comparably sized plasma displays and considerably lower than CRT televisions.

Cons

- Fast-moving images may suffer from a slight trailer effect, but with improved LCD technology, the effect is barely perceptible.
- When pixels stick on or off, they show up as either a pinpoint of bright light or black, which can be distracting on-screen.
- From certain viewing angles, LCDs will lose video contrast and color.
- LCDs with CCFL backlighting suffer from leaking light, and unlike LEDs, they can't dim certain areas on-screen. This may result in blacks and whites that appear to be more gray in color.

Best For

- Streaming PC content
- Bright, sunny rooms

LED (light-emitting diode)

LED TVs are actually a type of LCD TV. These sets use one of two LED backlight technologies:

- Full-array lighting places LEDs behind the screen in a grid pattern, letting the TV dim certain LEDs for the best contrast ratios available.
- Edge-lit sets have LEDs placed around the frame of the TV, and light is directed toward the center of the screen. Edge-lit models cost less than full-array sets and are a lot thinner.

Pros

- By using LEDs, these sets use a lot less electricity than other HDTVs, and they don't contain harmful mercury.
- Overall, LED TVs are one-third thinner than other LCD TVs and have longer life spans.
- Plasmas are well-known for their deep blacks, crisp whites, and fast response times, but LED TVs closely match in performance.

Cons

- These sets are costly because they feature a relatively new technology.
- Blooming, or a halo effect, may encircle bright images that are on dark backgrounds.

Best For

- Eco-conscious viewers
- Fast-paced gaming

Plasma

Pros

- A plasma TV's phosphors light up evenly across the screen to create images, which are consistently bright and clear with vibrant colors.
- The contrast ratio is high, so you'll see some of the darkest blacks and brightest whites.
- The design and technology of plasma TVs lend themselves to large screen sizes—typically 50 inches or greater.
- Rapid pixel response means no blurry motion.
- Wide viewing angles give you the same high-quality images on-screen no matter where in the room you happen to be sitting.

Cons

- Some plasmas are susceptible to image burn-in if not cared for properly.
- Low air pressure and high altitudes may cause plasmas to buzz.
- Some plasmas have highly reflective glass, which isn't ideal in sunny settings.

Best For

- Large groups who watch TV together
- Movies or sports with nonstop action

RPTV (rear-projection TV)

Pros

- RPTVs are surprisingly lightweight for their sizes.
- You'll find exceptional picture quality on very big screens (65 inches and larger).
- As screens get bigger, RPTVs tend to be more cost-effective than an LCD, LED, or plasma TV.

Cons

- With depths of 16 to 24 inches, these TVs are far too big and bulky to mount on a wall.
- RPTVs require lamp replacements every few years.

Best For

- Anyone who wants to bring a cinematic experience home
- Big, roomy home theaters

HDTV Glossary

Balderdash! OK, HDTV jargon isn't quite *that* bad, but there are a few terms that every shopper needs to know. Here is your cheat sheet.

aspect ratio—Put simply, it's the shape of the TV's screen. An HDTV has a wider picture than a traditional TV of the same vertical screen height. An HDTV has a 16:9 aspect ratio, meaning that if its screen were 16 inches wide, it would be 9 inches tall. A regular 4:3 TV screen would be 12 inches wide at the same 9-inch height.

HDMI (High-Definition Multimedia Interface)—A type of cable connection that carries both high-resolution video and uncompressed multichannel audio between HDTVs, home-theater receivers, and the other components required for your home-theater setup. HDMI cables maintain top picture and sound quality.

HD tuner—A built-in tuner for receiving local high-def broadcast TV channels. You won't need one if you have cable or satellite service. Some more expensive HDTVs include one, but separate HD tuners and antennas are available if your TV doesn't have one.

interlaced—When an HDTV displays an interlaced image, as in 1080i or 480i resolutions, it really shows you every other horizontal line of a frame of video (called a field) at a time. Sixty times a second, the TV displays the other field of the frame, or the lines not shown in the previous field. Interlaced video can appear to flicker or might cause moving objects on-screen to have blurred edges.

LCD (liquid-crystal display)—Like a notebook's screen, an LCD HDTV uses a fluid crystal substance to form pixels of color in front of a backlight. LCDs may not be able to match plasma TVs' deep black and gray areas, but they're lighter, sometimes less fragile, and considered easier to set up. These work better in brighter rooms or if you will be playing unchanging images on the screen for an extended period of time.

plasma—Plasma TVs use a tiny tube of gas for each pixel, and electricity makes each pixel glow. Plasmas create deeper blacks and sometimes brighter colors than LCDs and have better contrast. These also offer slightly better viewing angles. However, older or less expensive models can also suffer from permanent screen damage if an unchanging image, such as a TV channel's stock ticker or parts of certain video games, is displayed too long.

progressive scan—A TV showing a progressively scanned image, as in 1080p or 720p resolutions, displays a full frame of video (both odd-lined and even-lined fields) all at once. Progressive-scan video looks sharper than interlaced does and doesn't flicker.

projection—Some large-screen HDTVs offer lower-priced alternatives to LCDs or plasmas by using projection technologies. These technologies vary, but all projection TVs throw light on a screen from the front or rear. This means they are bulkier than plasmas or LCDs, but some sets have stellar picture quality.

viewing angle—No matter where you sit in front of an HDTV with a wide viewing angle, such as 170 degrees, its picture should look reasonably good. Test this before you buy.

widescreen—A TV or monitor that's wider horizontally in relation to its vertical height. HDTVs typically have a 16:9 aspect ratio rather than an older 4:3 display.

Should You Get An LCD Or LED-LCD TV?

So you've decided to get an LCD TV. The next step is deciding *which* LCD TV to invest in. LCDs use different kinds of lights to project an image onto the screen. A traditional LCD uses CCFLs or EEFLs whereas new LED-LCDs use LEDs.

	Light projection	Size	Dimensions; Weight***	Native resolution	Viewing angle	Inputs & Outputs	Refresh rate**
What It Means	How images are projected on-screen; type of backlight an LED-LCD uses	The diagonal measurement of the TV's screen	Height x width x depth; How much the TV weighs	A fixed TV resolution; images are best displayed in this	The angle at which the viewer can see the screen clearly	Inputs let you connect devices; Outputs transfer information to peripherals	Speed at which a screen is redrawn every second
Insignia NS-37L550A11 MSRP: $629.99* SKU 9602959	CCFL	37 inches	24.6x35.5x9.5 inches; 32.4 pounds (with stand)	1080p	N/A	4 HDMI, 1 Component, 1 Composite, 1 PC; 2 audio outputs	120Hz
Panasonic VIERA TC-L42U25 MSRP: $899.95* SKU 9783658	EEFL	42 inches	25.1x40.2x4.2 inches; 39.7 pounds	1080p	178 degrees	3 HDMI, 1 Component, 2 Composite, 1 PC; 1 audio output	120Hz
LG LD520 MSRP: $1,900* SKU 9797709	CCFL	55 inches	32.9x53.4x4.3 inches; 72.5 pounds	1080p	178 degrees	3 HDMI, 1 Component, 1 Composite, 1 USB; 2 audio outputs	120Hz
Samsung LN60C630 MSRP: $2,499.99* SKU 9904809	CCFL	60 inches	33.3x51.3x3.4 inches; 70.6 pounds	1080p	N/A	4 HDMI, 2 Component, 2 Composite, 2 USB	120Hz
Insignia NS-40E560A11 MSRP: $999.99* SKU 9688972	LED	40 inches	25x38.9x1.5 inches; 34.2 pounds	1080p	178 degrees	4 HDMI, 1 Component, 1 Composite; 2 audio outputs	120Hz
Sharp LC-52LE810UN MSRP: $2,299.99* SKU 9730536	LED (edge-lit)	52 inches	32x49.6x1.6 inches; 52.9 pounds	1080p	176 degrees	4 HDMI, 1 Component, 1 Ethernet, 2 USB; 2 audio outputs	120Hz
Samsung UN55C6300SF MSRP: $2,499.99* SKU 9790851	LED (edge-lit)	55 inches	50.5x30.2x 1.18 inches; N/A	1080p	N/A	4 HDMI, 1 Component, 1 Ethernet, 2 USB; 2 audio outputs	120Hz
Sony BRAVIA KDL60EX700 MSRP: $2,999.99* SKU 9763394	LED (edge-lit)	60 inches	34.6x56.4x 2.6 inches; 60.2 pounds	1080p	178 degrees	4 HDMI, 2 Composite, 1 USB, 1 Ethernet; 1 audio output	120Hz

LED-LCD

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.
***Unless specified, this is without stand

**Comparing refresh rates between plasma and LCD TVs is like comparing apples to oranges. For more in-depth information about refresh rates, please ask a sales associate.

Which Plasma TV Is Best For You?

If you're planning on buying a plasma HDTV, it might be hard to decide on one just by looking at a wall of gorgeous sets. Refer to this chart for further help when shopping.

	Size	Dimensions; Weight***	Native resolution	Viewing angle	Inputs	Outputs	Refresh rate**
What It Means	The diagonal measurement of the TV's screen	Height x width x depth; How much the TV weighs	A fixed TV resolution; images are best displayed in the native resolution	The maximum angle at which the viewer can see the screen clearly	Inputs let you connect your components to your TV	Outputs transfer information from your TV to peripherals, such as audio to speakers	Speed at which a screen is redrawn every second
Insignia NS-42P650A11 MSRP: $499.99* SKU 9748831	42 inches	27.5x40.6x 11.9 inches; 43 pounds (with stand)	720p	N/A	2 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 Composite	2 audio	600Hz
Samsung PN42C450 MSRP: $599.99* SKU 9791253	42 inches	24.8x40.6x2.7 inches; 38.6 pounds	720p	N/A	3 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 Composite, 1 PC	N/A	600Hz
Insignia NS-50P650A11 MSRP: $697.99* SKU 9745916	50 inches	31.25x47.37x 11.87 inches; 50.7 pounds	720p	N/A	2 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 Composite	2 audio	600Hz
Samsung PN50C450 MSRP: $749.99* SKU 9789725	50 inches	28.5x47.37x 11.25 inches; 51.8 pounds	720p	N/A	3 HDMI, n/a Component, n/a Composite, n/a PC	N/A	600Hz
Panasonic TC-P42U2 MSRP: $799.95* SKU 9761059	42 inches	26.1x40.6x3.7 inches; 49.6 pounds	1080p	N/A	3 HDMI, 2 Component, 2 Composite	1 audio	600Hz
Panasonic TC-P50G20 MSRP: $1,499.95* SKU 9788953	50 inches	30.3x48x3.5 inches; 57.3 pounds	1080p	N/A	3 HDMI, 2 Composite, 2 Component, 1 PC	1 audio	600Hz
LG INFINIA 50PK950 MSRP: $1,699.99* SKU 9720169	50 inches	29x46.9x2.1 inches; 66.6 pounds	1080p	N/A	4 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 PC, 1 USB, 1 LAN	N/A	600Hz
Samsung PN50C7000 MSRP: $1,999.99* SKU 9809723	50 inches	29.5x47.7x1.4 inches; 54 pounds	1080p	N/A	4 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 Composite, 1 PC, 1 USB	N/A	600Hz

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**Comparing refresh rates between plasma and LCD TVs is like comparing apples to oranges. For more in-depth information about refresh rates, please ask a sales associate.

NOTEWORTHY

Accessories & Services

As you head toward the HDTV section of your local consumer electronics store, you'll invariably pass shelves of bland-looking HDTV accessories. There are a handful of accessories that are vital to getting the most from your HDTV. The following is a rundown of the accessories we recommend to complete your home-theater setup.

WALL MOUNTS & BRACKETS

- View your HDTV from the best possible angle
- Adjust your TV's position by tilting it up or down as needed
- Maximize space in your viewing room by hanging up your TV

CLEANING KIT

- Protect your HDTV's screen by using specially formulated sprays and cloths while cleaning it
- Eliminate the danger of scratching delicate screens
- No-drip formulas prevent damage to other home-theater equipment

CORD-CONCEALMENT KIT

- Hide multiple cords while keeping them organized
- Minimize cord clutter, especially with wall-mounted sets
- Keep the focus on your new HDTV, not the cords connected to it

TV STANDS

- Offer flexibility if you're unable to mount your HDTV on the wall
- Available in a variety of finishes to match any décor
- Provide a place for additional home-theater equipment

HDMI CABLES

- Carry uncompressed digital audio and video signals to and from your HDTV and its components
- Eliminate interference from other components with shielding (found in higher-end cables)

UNIVERSAL REMOTE CONTROL

- Simplify your home-theater setup with one remote that can control all of your components
- Program different functions so that you will be able to watch a movie by pressing just one button, for example
- Easily view options in the dark with a backlit LCD

SURGE PROTECTORS/POWER CONDITIONERS

- Protect your home theater from potential damage by using a surge protector that will absorb electrical fluctuations
- Filter out "dirty power" (also known as electrical "noise" or radio interference) that can degrade your home theater's audio and video with a power conditioner
- Have peace of mind knowing that your home theater will give you its peak performance for the longest amount of time

SURROUND-SOUND SYSTEM

- Maximize your HDTV experience with theater-like audio
- Feel like you're in the movie scene instead of just watching it
- Even out softer and louder programming with an equalizer

HOME-THEATER SERVICES

A home theater is a pretty big investment, so it's wise to consider letting a professional handle your installation and setup. Let your local CE retailer tackle the following tasks, and you'll be able to enjoy the full glory of HD in no time.

- Home Theater In-Home Consultation
- TV Recycling
- TV Calibration
- TV Mounting & Cord Concealment
- Remote Control Programming
- Speaker Setup

HOW TO BUY

A Point-&-Shoot That Fits Your Needs

One Size Definitely Does Not Fit All

Not everyone shoots the same types of photographs under the same circumstances. So, how do you know which digital camera is right for you? Let the kind of shooting you do determine which cameras you'll consider.

Capturing video. If you want to use your camera to capture motion segments commemorating graduations, birthdays, and the like, today's point-and-shoot cameras are up to the task. Many inexpensive cameras can shoot well-exposed video and other more advanced models are capable of recording HD 1080p images, producing sharp video that looks great when displayed on your HDTV.

. . . more advanced models are capable of recording HD 1080p images . . .

Sports shots. If your typical shooting scenario involves nonstop action, you need a camera with a fast shutter speed, which requires either plenty of light or a fast lens. And to ensure you take the best photo results in fast-changing conditions, look for a camera with a high frame rate (for example, one that can shoot 5fps).

. . . look for a camera with a high frame rate . . .

Close-ups. Perhaps you enjoy taking extreme close-ups of flowers, leaves, or insects. You need a camera with a macro mode, which lets you move to within an inch or two of your subject, to get stunning photos of petals, close-ups of coins, or scary shots of bugs.

You need a camera with a macro mode . . .

Nighttime shooting. Are you a night owl? If you shoot in low-light situations, you need a camera with a high ISO rating, that is, one with a super-responsive sensor so you can take well-exposed evening shots. Because low-light shooting often requires slower shutter speeds, use a tripod and cable release to prevent blurry images.

. . . you need a camera with a high ISO rating . . .

BY ROD SCHER

Meet Olympus' Revolutionary PEN E-PL1

Pro-D-SLR Quality + Point & Shoot Simplicity + HD Video

When we talk about D-SLR cameras, we often use words such as vibrant, lifelike, and sharp to describe their photo quality. Those colorful phrases can be attributed to the large image sensors that D-SLRs have. In the PEN E-PL1 ($599.99; www.olympus.com), Olympus installed an image sensor that rivals the image quality that bulky, heavy D-SLRs have to offer—but this easy-to-use camera model is compact and won't weigh you down.

Performance

- 12.3MP Live-MOS image sensor is eight times larger than what's found on most compact cameras. The same sensor is used in Olympus' E-30 and E-620 D-SLR cameras.
- Select photo effects and adjustments with the touch of a button and see instant on-screen results with Live Guide.
- Optional interchangeable camera lenses let you improve your shot composition and give you creative freedom.
- With three modes of IS (image stabilization) built into the camera body, you won't need to purchase expensive lenses that have IS. An add-on adapter makes the camera compatible with micro four-thirds lenses.
- Capture 720p HD video at 30fps with the one-touch Direct HD Movie Button.

Portable Size

- Camera body weighs a little over 10 ounces.
- Only 1.6 inches deep and 2.8 inches tall.
- 2.7-inch LCD with anti-reflective coating.

Intelligent Features

- Choose from 19 scene-select modes and Intelligent Auto Mode to select the best camera settings for everyday shooting.
- To prevent blurry faces in portrait shots, Face Detection can find up to eight faces, even if they're moving.
- Built-in pop-up flash fills dark environments with light so your subjects look their best. Continuous AF Tracking locks on your subject to adjust focus and brightness.
- AF Live View allows you to compose and capture shots using the 2.7-inch LCD screen.
- Supersonic Wave Filter removes dust and other particles from image sensor for spot-free images.
- Six in-camera art filters let you use creative photo and video effects, such as Pop Art and Gentle Sepia.

Focal Length

How It Relates To Your Camera

Much ado is made about the zoom capabilities on both point-and-shoot cameras and D-SLR lenses, but people often overlook the importance of focal length when determining the type and quality of pictures you can take with a given camera. Here, we'll explain what focal length is and how it comes into play when you're capturing images.

Focal Length Defined

Focal length is a feature of the camera lens, expressed in millimeters, that refers to the depth of field of the image. For example, a focal length of 28mm or lower is considered a wide-angle lens, while a focal length of 75mm or higher is a telephoto lens. A 50mm lens has about the same perspective as the human eye.

Essentially, any digital camera you buy will be a 35mm-equivalent camera, which means that the baseline focal length is 35mm. For example, if you have a camera with a 5X optical zoom, the lens can make the subject appear five times closer for a focal length of up to 175mm (35mm x 5).

Determine Your Focal Length Needs

If you want a point-and-shoot camera and expect to snap photos from a long distance, opt for a camera with a 5X or higher optical zoom. If you're looking for removable lenses for your D-SLR, consider the type of photos you're planning to take: For sweeping shots such as landscapes, a wide-angle lens (28mm or lower focal length) is ideal, whereas you need a telephoto lens (75mm or higher focal length) to capture far away subjects, such as athletes at a sporting event or birds.

BY SETH COLANER

Camcorder Memory Types

Find The Right Storage

When it comes to non-tape-based camcorder storage, there are three main types: hard drive, flash memory, and memory card. Here, we'll show you how each type has distinct benefits that make it best-suited for certain lifestyle needs.

Hard Drive

Hard drive camcorders offer more storage capacity than models that use flash drives or memory cards, ranging from 30 to 120GB, meaning you can record more video at a time. Prices start at $400, and the price will depend on the camcorder's lens, storage capacity, and other features. Also note that you will need to invest in extra batteries due to the added power consumption required due to the hard drive's moving parts.

Perfect For: Anyone who needs plenty of internal storage space to capture life's moments.

Flash Memory

Flash memory camcorders use the same type of storage as USB flash drives, making them smaller and more lightweight than other camcorder types. However, these tend to have less storage space, from 8 to 64GB. You'll find flash-based camcorders starting at $200, making them suitable for budget-minded families who plan to document their everyday lives with the kids.

Perfect For: Frequent travelers who need a camcorder that can fit easily in a purse or bag or families with children who want to test out their videography skills.

Memory Card

Many hard drive or flash drive camcorders incorporate a memory card slot, so you can insert a compatible card and gain additional space to store your videos. Some camcorders can only store videos on a memory card rather than to a hard or flash drive, but one benefit of using a camcorder that uses memory cards is the ability to quickly insert the card into a compatible computer or HDTV for instant video playback.

Perfect For: Instantly adding storage to your camcorder when the family dog decides to show off his latest antics.

BY KRIS GLASER BRAMBILA

ESSENTIAL THINGS TO KNOW

Share Memories On The Web

Q How do I upload photos and videos to the Web?

A You can use an online sharing site, which generally requires an account. Click the site's Upload link and choose the files you want to share from your computer's hard drive.

Q Are there any products that make sharing photos and videos easier?

A Yes. Many digital cameras and camcorders feature a one-button upload tool that lets you instantly send your photos and videos to your preferred sharing site. Likewise, photo- and video-editing software typically lets you publish your favorites to the Web with just one click.

Q Where can I share my photos and videos online?

A Some of the most popular options are photo-sharing sites such as Flickr and Picasa, video-sharing sites such as YouTube, and social networking sites such as Facebook or MySpace. You can also upload your favorites to your personal blog or Web site.

Q How do I share my photos and videos once I've uploaded them?

A You can direct friends and family to your photo and video collection by sending them a Web link via email, or you can allow other members of the sharing site to browse your collection.

Q How many photos can I post on a sharing site?

A Depending on the service you use, you may be able to post as many pictures as you want, though some sites limit the number of separate albums you can create. Conversely, some sites let you create unlimited albums but limit the number of pictures you can add to each one.

Q How can I avoid sending large files through email?

A You can use photo-editing software to resize your images so they're small enough to be accepted by your recipient's email server and don't take up too much space in their inbox. You can also use an FTP (file transfer protocol) or online file-sharing service to send large images and videos.

Q Do my images need to be in a certain file format before uploading them to the Web?

A Not necessarily, though images with smaller file sizes will upload more quickly. In this case, you should save your images in a compressed format such as JPEG or TIFF.

Q How do I convert my image files to a different file format?

A Most photo-editing software lets you save your images as a variety of formats, such as JPEG, PNG, or TIFF. Other photo-editing or file-conversion software may give you the option to convert an entire batch of your photos at once.

Digital Imaging Glossary

Are you confused about what the lingo on camera boxes means? Use this glossary to help decode the world of digital imaging.

aperture—An iris-like diaphragm opening that can expand and contract the lens to let you control the amount of light that passes through it, thus affecting the exposure. The term "f-stop" can be used interchangeably with aperture.

burst mode—A camera mode that will let you capture several shots consecutively after pressing the shutter only one time.

CCD—A charge-coupled device is a type of image-sensing component. It converts light into energy that can be stored as digital data on your camera.

depth of field—The area that is in focus in front of and beyond the subject of your photo.

digital zoom—Magnifies an image digitally by cropping it and filling in the rest with interpolated pixels, thus degrading the quality. Even if the numbers are impressive, never choose a camera based on digital zoom.

f-stop—See aperture. Smaller f-stop numbers mean a wider lens opening; larger f-stop numbers mean a narrower lens opening.

ISO—For digital cameras, the ISO setting measures the sensitivity to light (similar to how it does with film). Digital camera ISO settings, such as 200, 400, and up, should capture photos as if one were using film with such a speed. Lower ISO settings mean you need more light and vice versa.

LCD—The screen on the back of the camera that lets you see a live-action view of your subject or your photo after you've taken it.

lens—The apparatus on the front of the camera that gathers and directs light toward the imaging device. In a digital camera, the lens likely has both an optical and digital zoom.

megapixel—Approximately 1 million pixels. The higher the megapixel count, the higher the resolution and the more you can crop, which means (in general) better-quality photos.

memory card—Because digital cameras have very little onboard memory, they need flash memory cards to store more than a dozen or so images. The type of memory card you need depends on the make and model of your camera. Some of the most popular memory cards are Secure Digital, MultiMedia Card, Compact Flash, and Sony Memory Sticks. In general, memory cards are quite small.

noise—The small statistical variations among pixels that lead to (usually) minor distortions of color in a photo.

optical zoom—The camera's mechanical ability to move the lens physically closer to your subject. With optical zoom, the higher the number (such as 5X or 10X), the better. When choosing a camera, always consider the optical zoom, not the digital zoom. Digital zoom artificially adds pixels.

resolution—The number of pixels in an image. The higher the resolution, the more detail and quality in a photo. Resolution is measured in a proportion (such as 2,272 x 1,704).

shutter—A mechanism that opens and closes to allow light to pass through the lens. You can usually control the camera's shutter speed.

shutter speed—The length of time a camera's shutter is open to let light through the lens and hit the sensor, which records the image. This is expressed in fractions of a second: For instance, a shutter speed of 1/250 means that the shutter is open for 1/250th of a second.

viewfinder—The small opening in the camera that the user looks through to frame a shot. Some digital cameras don't have a viewfinder and use only the camera's LCD to frame the shot.

white balance—Light levels are adjusted electronically to ensure whites in a certain environment are pure, leading to more life-like colors. White balance can usually be manually adjusted, too.

Which Point-&-Shoot Camera Is Best For You?

If you're a little confused about the most important features in a digital camera, you're not alone. In this chart, we compare features from select digital cameras, and we also explain what these features mean.

	Resolution; Optical zoom	Shutter speed	Memory card	LCD size	Battery life	ISO	Movie mode
What It Means	More pixels mean bigger and clearer prints; Moves the lens closer to your subject	A faster shutter speed will let you snap action photos without blur	Removable card that stores your photos in your camera	The LCD is the screen on the back of the camera	Based on how many shots you can take on a single charge	A higher ISO lets you take better photos in low-light settings	Lets you record short video clips on your digital camera
Insignia NS-DSC1112SL MSRP: $129.99* SKU 9766188	12MP; 4X	1 to 1/2,000 second	SDHC	2.7 inches	N/A	Auto; Manual: 50, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600	Yes
Casio EXILIM EX-S8 MSRP: $149.99* SKU 9855894	12.1MP; 4X	1/2 to 1/2,000 second	SD/SDHC	2.7 inches	N/A	Auto; Manual: 64, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600	Yes
Fujifilm FinePix XP10 MSRP: $199.95* SKU 9772659 See p. 30	12.2MP; 5X	1/4 to 1/2,000 second	SD/SDHC	2.7 inches	N/A	Auto; Manual: 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600	Yes
Sony Cyber-shot W370 MSRP: $229.99* SKU 9757839	14.1MP; 7X	2 to 1/1,600 seconds	Memory Stick Duo/PRO Duo/PRO HG-Duo/SD/SDHC	3 inches	230 shots	Auto; Manual: 80, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600, 3200	Yes
Nikon Coolpix S8000 MSRP: $299.95* SKU 9758674	14.2MP; 10X	1 to 1/2,000 second	SD/SDHC	3 inches	210 shots	Auto; Manual: 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600, 3200	Yes
Olympus Stylus TOUGH-6020 MSRP: $299.99* SKU 9765213	14MP; 5X	1/4 to 1/2,000 second	SD/SDHC	2.7 inches	200 shots	Auto; Manual: 80, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600	Yes
Samsung HZ35W MSRP: $349.99* SKU 9846077	14MP; 15X	1 to 1/2,000 second	SD/SDHC/SDXC	3 inches	N/A	Auto; Manual: 80, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600, 3200	Yes
Canon PowerShot SX210 IS MSRP: $349.99* SKU 9770402	14.1MP; 14X	1 to 1/3,200 second	SD/SDHC/SDXC/MMC/MMC Plus/HC MMC Plus	3 inches	260 shots	Auto; Manual: 80, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600	Yes

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

Which D-SLR Is Best For You?

As D-SLR prices keep coming down, more photographers are turning to them, both as a first camera and as a trade-up to something better. In this chart, we'll help you sort through some of the features and performance specs of select D-SLR cameras.

	Resolution	LCD size	ISO range	Kit lens	Burst speed	Shutter speed
What It Means	Image sensor in megapixels; more means a bigger image	Diagonal measurement of the screen on the back of the camera	A higher ISO range will let you take better photos in low-light situations	Standard lens bundled with the camera body	Frames per second (fps) you can shoot while in burst mode	The wider the range, the greater the gamut of long exposures to frozen action
Sony Alpha A230L MSRP: $449.99* SKU 9342473	10.2MP	2.7 inches	100 to 3200	18-55mm	2.5fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds
Nikon D3000 MSRP: $549.95* SKU 9456803	10.2MP	3 inches	100 to 1600	18-55mm f/3.5-5.6	3fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds
Olympus PEN E-PL1 MSRP: $599.99* SKU 9769158 See p. 21	12.3MP	2.7 inches	200 to 3200	14-42mm f/3.5-5.6	3fps	60 to 1/2,000 seconds
Pentax K-X MSRP: $649.95* SKU 9555787	12.4MP	2.7 inches	200 to 6400	18-55mm	4.7fps	30 to 1/6,000 seconds
Olympus E-P1 MSRP: $799.99* SKU 9463573	12.3MP	3 inches	100 to 6400	14-42mm f/3.5-5.6	3fps	60 to 1/4,000 seconds
Panasonic Lumix DMC-GF1K-K MSRP: $899.95* SKU 9940728	12.1MP	3 inches	100 to 3200	14-45mm f/3.5-5.6	3fps (high speed), 2fps (low speed)	60 to 1/4,000 seconds
Canon EOS Rebel T2i MSRP: $899.99* SKU 9778635	18MP	3 inches	100 to 6400	18-55mm f/3.5-5.6	3.7fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds
Canon EOS 7D MSRP: $1,699* SKU 9491944	18MP	3 inches	100 to 6400	N/A (body only)	8fps	30 to 1/8,000 seconds

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Which Digital Camcorder Is Best For You?

Digital camcorders come in a number of formats: DVD, hard drive, flash drive, MiniDV, and high definition are the most common. By comparing the following digital camcorders, you can determine which recording format and product best fit your style.

		LCD size	Optical zoom; Digital zoom	Recording speeds	Memory card	Digital still resolution	Lines of resolution
	What It Means	Diagonal length of viewing screen	Two methods for magnifying depth of field; optical zoom is better	The speeds a particular camcorder can utilize during recording	Compatible flash card types (cards not included unless noted)	The number of megapixels the camcorder can capture in still images	Number of lines of horizontal resolution; the higher the number, the greater the detail
Flash Drive	**JVC Everio GZ-MS230** MSRP: $269.95* SKU 9731192	2.7 inches	39X; 800X	Ultra/Fine/ Norm/Eco	SD/SDHC	0.3MP	480
Flash Drive	**Canon FS300** MSRP: $299.99* SKU 9739361	2.7 inches	37X; 2,000X	XP/SP/LP	SD	0.45MP	480
Flash Drive	**Insignia NS-DV111080F** MSRP: $349.99* SKU 9769398	3 inches	12X; 10X	N/A	SD/SDHC	10MP	1,080
Flash Drive	**Samsung HMX-H204** MSRP: $499.99* SKU 9879527	2.7 inches	20X; 220X	N/A	SD/SDHC	4.7MP	1,080
Flash Drive	**Canon VIXIA HF R11** MSRP: $699.99* SKU 9751699	2.7 inches	20X; 400X	FXP/XP+/ SP/LP	SD/SDHC	1.73MP	1,080
Flash Drive	**Panasonic HDC-TM700K** MSRP: $999.95* SKU 9921697	3 inches	12X; 700X	HA/HG/HX/HE	SD/SDHC/ SDXC	14.2MP	1,080
Hard Drive	**Panasonic HDC-HS60K** MSRP: $699.95* SKU 9921715	2.7 inches	25X; 60X	HA/HG/HX/HE	SD/SDHC/ SDXC	5MP	1,080
Hard Drive	**Sony Handycam DCR-SR88** MSRP: $399.99* SKU 9880262	2.7 inches	60X; 2,000X	HQ/SP/LP	Memory Stick PRO Duo/SD/ SDHC	N/A	480

High-Definition

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

Find The Nikon Coolpix That Fits Your Life

Nikon's COOLPIX cameras won't let you miss the joy in life, thanks to their fast start-up time, shutter speed, and auto focus. Each COOLPIX offers an ultra-compact and stylish design that will deliver sharp and colorful photo results with its NIKKOR lens. With a wide range of Nikon COOLPIX cameras available, it couldn't be easier to find a camera that can keep up with your photography needs.

Nikon

At the heart of the image™

Product Name	Nikon COOLPIX L22	Nikon COOLPIX L110	Nikon COOLPIX S570	Nikon COOLPIX S3000	Nikon COOLPIX S8000	Nikon COOLPIX S4000	Nikon COOLPIX S70	Nikon COOLPIX P100
SKU	9765091	9758692	9455369	9765107	9758674	9758647	9455412	9758747
Additional Colors Available			9464661 9464616 9463699	9765125 9765143 9765134		9765161 9765152 9779807	9463662 9630449 9630389	
MSRP*	$129.95	$279.95	$179.95	$149.95	$299.95	$199.95	$299.95	$399.95
Resolution	12MP	12.1MP	12MP	12MP	14.2MP	12MP	12.1MP	10.3MP
Zoom	3.6X optical; 4X digital	15X optical; 4X digital	5X optical; 4X digital	4X optical; 4X digital	10X optical; 2X digital	4X optical; 4X digital	5X optical; 4X digital	26X optical; 4X digital
LCD Monitor	3 inches	3 inches	2.7 inches	2.7 inches	3 inches	3 inches	3.5-inch OLED	3-inch tilt and swivel LCD
Internal Memory & Compatible Cards	19MB internal & SD/SDHC	43MB internal & SD/SDHC	47MB internal & SD/SDHC	47MB internal & SD/SDHC	32MB internal & SD/SDHC	45MB internal & SD/SDHC	20MB internal & SD/SDHC	43MB internal & SD/SDHC
ISO	Up to 1600	Up to 6400	Up to 3200	Up to 3200	Up to 3200	Up to 3200	Up to 6400	Up to 3200
Shooting Modes	6 Scene Auto Selector Modes, 16 Scene Modes, plus Auto	6 Scene Auto Selector Modes, 15 Scene Modes, plus Auto	6 Scene Auto Selector Modes, 16 Scene Modes, plus Auto	6 Scene Auto Selector Modes, 16 Scene Modes, plus Auto	6 Scene Auto Selector Modes, 16 Scene Modes, plus Auto	6 Scene Auto Selector Modes, 16 Scene Modes, plus Auto	6 Scene Auto Selector Modes, 16 Scene Modes, plus Auto	17 Scene Modes; Program, Aperture Priority, Shutter Priority, and Manual Exposure modes
Movie Mode	Yes	Yes (HD)	Yes	Yes	Yes (HD)	Yes (HD)	Yes (HD)	Yes (HD)
Touch-Panel Control	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Battery Type	2 AA batteries	4 AA batteries	Li-Ion rechargeable battery	Li-Ion rechargeable battery	Li-Ion rechargeable battery	Li-Ion rechargeable battery	Li-Ion rechargeable battery	Li-Ion rechargeable battery
Battery Life	240 shots with alkaline, 660 shots with lithium-ion	270 shots with alkaline, 840 shots with lithium-ion	200 shots	220 shots	210 shots	190 shots	200 shots	250 shots

* Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

FUJIFILM

Digital Camera
Durable & Stylish

FUJIFILM FinePix XP10

MSRP: $199.95

SKU: 9766746 (Blue)
9772659 (Black)
9772631 (Green)
9772604 (Silver)

www.bestbuy.com/fuji

*WATERPROOF | SHOCKPROOF | FREEZEPROOF | DUSTPROOF

Quick Overview

From a rainy day to a snorkeling adventure to your toddler getting a hold of it, the FinePix XP10 can handle whatever life brings at it. Waterproof, shockproof, freezeproof, and dustproof, the XP10 is essentially "life proof". Capture stills and movies in HD-quality. Tough enough for life's adventures and looks good capturing it.

Perfect For

The FinePix XP10 is perfect for anyone who wants a camera that can go wherever life's adventures take them. From the birthday party to the beach to the ski slopes . . . even in the rain or underwater.

Outstanding Benefits

- 12 megapixel; Fujinon 5x Optical Zoom; 2.7-inch LCD
- Waterproof to 10ft., Shockproof from 3ft, Freezeproof to 14°f & Dustproof
- One-touch capture of HD stills and movies with sound in 720p
- SR AUTO Automatic Scene Recognition mode detects six scene types
- Digital Image Stabilization helps eliminate blurry pictures
- Face Detection with Automatic Red Eye Removal
- Tracking Auto Focus keeps fast-moving subjects in frame and focus
- In Camera tagging for Facebook and YouTube
- Uni-body metal chassis with rubber traction pods

Coolest Feature

A separate movie shutter button delivers one-touch simplicity for capturing 720p widescreen HD movies with sound. Successive Movie mode even lets you capture several clips in one movie.

NOTEWORTHY

Accessories & Services

Prices for digital camcorders and cameras continue to fall as their video and picture quality improves, which is especially good news for first-time buyers or those looking to upgrade. Pairing your new camcorder or camera with the right products will bring you better photography results. Here are some must-have accessories you should consider buying to get the most out of your digital imaging device.

UV FILTER

- Protects digital camcorder and D-SLR lenses from dust, dirt, fingerprints, and scratches
- Helps you get clearer, more detailed results when you're shooting in bright conditions

EXTRA MEDIA

- Keep spare memory cards on hand so you can snap away without having to worry about running out of storage space
- Consider having several memory cards with smaller capacities instead of one card with a larger capacity; that way, if something goes wrong with one card, you'll still have a backup
- For your digital camcorder, keep more recording media in your bag than you think you'll need, just in case

ADDITIONAL LENSES/CONVERTER LENSES

- Extra lenses for D-SLRs and converter lenses for digital camcorders can enhance your results by extending your field of view, reducing glare, and more
- Telephoto lenses enable you to zoom in from far away, wide-angle lenses give you the ability to get a full view even if you're close to the subject, and macro lenses will let you achieve up-close, detailed shots of your photo subject

EXTERNAL FLASH

- Light up your subjects from greater distances
- Offers better control of lighting conditions when taking photos by directing the angle of the flash

SPARE BATTERIES & CHARGERS

- Make sure you're never caught without the power needed to capture the perfect moment
- Whether your camera uses proprietary batteries or AAs, keep at least one fully charged spare or set in your camera bag
- An additional battery charger will give you the flexibility to power up your camera batteries anywhere you're headed, even if you're traveling

TRIPOD

- Tripods are an easy way to ensure steady video footage
- Pan while recording video in one smooth motion
- Use a tripod and your camera's timer to get a picture of the entire group without needing someone to man the camera
- Keeps your camera steady while you're shooting close-up or distance shots, which can prevent photo blurring

REMOTE SWITCH

- A longer cable lets you snap photos without having to touch the camera, which can also reduce camera shake
- May enable the user to lock the shutter for longer exposure times

DIGITAL IMAGING SERVICES

Once you've set your sights on the camera or camcorder you want, consider taking advantage of the digital imaging services offered by your local CE retailer. Not only can you protect your investment, but you can also discover photography and videography skills that will make your photos and videos picture-perfect.

- D-SLR or Camcorder Service Plan
- D-SLR Training Course
- Camcorder Training Course

AMD's VISION

An Easy Path To Choose A PC

When buying a computer, you often end up comparing complex specifications, such as the number of processor cores, amount of memory, and hard drive capacity. But for most of us, it's not clear what any of those specs will allow you to do with the computer. AMD fixes that problem with its four tiers of VISION Technology, which classify PCs in terms of the practical tasks they're capable of handling. To learn more about each tier of the AMD VISION Technology, read on for more details.

VISION AMD

Everyday Computing

- Watch DVD movies and online videos
- Photo viewing
- Casual gaming
- Rich Internet browsing
- Listen to music

PREMIUM VISION AMD

High Definition Computing

- Watch Blu-ray/HD movies
- Photo editing
- Convert CDs to MP3s
- Mainstream gaming
- Live TV on the PC
- Multitasking

ULTIMATE VISION AMD

High Performance Computing

- Create and edit movies
- Edit and mix music
- Advanced photo editing and 3D gaming
- Record TV shows
- Advanced multitasking

BLACK VISION AMD

Maximum Computing

- Maximum control
- Massive headroom
- Platform overclocking
- Create and edit HD movies
- Media player video conversion
- Cutting edge gaming (FPS)
- Megatasking

AMD VISION Advantages

Thanks to AMD's power-saving feature, all VISION Technology notebooks can last for more than three hours on one battery charge, so you have the convenience of working on documents or watching a full movie when you're on the go. And with AMD's Enhanced Virus Protection system, your data will remain protected from viruses.

Whether you want a system that can design, edit, stream, play, or any combination thereof, AMD VISION Technology makes it simple to choose a PC. Below are four computers that feature each AMD VISION Technology.

Gateway NV53A24u

- AMD VISION
- 15.5-inch notebook that features HD Widescreen Ultra-bright display
- 4GB of memory and can be upgraded to 8GB
- Wireless network connectivity for 802.11b/g/n, as well as a wired Ethernet port
- Offers both HDMI and VGA output for connecting to a second monitor or HDTV

Toshiba Satellite L645D

- AMD VISION Premium
- Notebook with 2.3GHz dual-core processor that's both power- and battery life-efficient
- 14-inch HD TruBrite LED display with native support for 720p
- Built-in stereo speakers with support for Dolby Advanced Audio
- 6-cell lithium battery with a rated time of four hours and 10 minutes

HP Pavilion Elite HPE-210y

- AMD VISION Ultimate
- Powerful 3GHz quad-core processor for high-performance computing
- BD player with SuperMulti DVD burner to support almost all disc formats
- 1TB hard drive for storing your collection of digital images, music, and videos
- 15-in-1 memory card reader and 802.11b/g/n Wi-Fi connectivity
- HP MediaSmart Software Suite manages all your multimedia and lets you share content on the Web or burn it to DVD

Asus Essentio CG1330-05

- AMD VISION Black
- Features six-core AMD processor for top-end performance
- Convenient front panel with memory card slots, four USB ports, and audio inputs
- Delivers energy savings through Asus' Energy Processing Unit, which optimally regulates system power and performance
- Includes 8GB of high-performance memory with support for up to 16GB
- ATI Radeon 5750 graphics card provides great gaming and video-editing prowess

VISION-powered notebooks let you stay connected longer.

HOW TO BUY

Protection For Your PC

Equip Your Security Tool Chest

Your computer is a vital tool and a valued connection to friends and family. To keep it running smoothly, you need to protect it from viruses, spyware, and . . . well, just plain bad luck. To do so, you need four tools: an antivirus application, an antispyware program, a backup system, and a firewall.

Backup & Restore Tools

Security software won't help if your hard drive disintegrates. Plan ahead: Purchase a backup utility and then *use* it; back up your valuable data at least every week or two. Then, practice restoring that data. If the restoration doesn't work, then the backup is doing you no good at all; better to find out sooner than later.

. . . back up your valuable data at least every week or two.

Antispyware Tools

Spyware is software that tracks your computing activity without your permission. It also causes unwanted pop-up ads and a general slowdown of your system. Combat spyware by using a good antispyware application from a trusted security company.

Firewall

A firewall is a piece of software or hardware that sits between you and the Internet, watching for suspicious attempts to connect with your system. Most new routers include a firewall, so if you're using a router, you may already have one. However, you should consider using a software firewall, as well, for optimal protection.

. . . you should consider using a software firewall, as well, for optimal protection.

Antivirus Applications

There are many types of viruses and related malware, but all of them, either purposely or as an unintended side effect, negatively affect the performance of your computer. To combat them, use a name-brand antivirus application. Keep in mind that it's not enough just to buy the program: Run it daily and update it regularly. And don't use multiple antivirus applications; they tend to confuse each other, and the combination may cause more problems than it resolves.

Run it daily and update it regularly.

BY ROD SCHER

Sony VAIO
VPCS111FM/S
$1,049.99
www.sonystyle.com

Designed For, Inspired By Customers

The New Blue Label Laptops

Best Buy's exclusive Blue Label laptops (www.bestbuy.com) are customer-inspired, so they're designed with everyday uses in mind. The Sony, Asus, Dell, and Toshiba laptops all speak to Best Buy's commitment to a faster and simpler laptop, as evidenced by the following features.

Performance & Protection

The Blue Label line includes features Best Buy customers asked for, such as a long battery life, convenient portability, and consistent performance. Blue Label laptops come with a two-year manufacturer's limited warranty, 30 days of Best Buy Geek Squad support, and one year of antivirus protection.

Beyond The Basics

What makes the Blue Label series even more unique is that they are built with Intel's Wireless Display technology, which uses the Netgear Push2TV Adapter to stream online and stored content from your laptop to your HDTV via your wireless home network. In addition, each of the Blue Label laptops includes a 2010 Intel Core i5 processor with Turbo Boost Technology, which helps you multitask efficiently and saves energy when necessary. For more information about either of these features, see "Give Your Notebook The Big Screen Treatment" on page 37 and "A Chip That Works & Plays As Hard As You Do" on page 36.

The Sony VAIO VPCS111FM/S

Holding its own as an example of the Blue Label standard is the Sony VAIO VPCS111FM/S ($1,049.99; www.sonystyle.com). Running on Windows 7 Home Premium 64-bit, the Sony VAIO VPCS111FM/S is well-equipped for the mobile business person or on-the-go student. It features 500GB of hard drive capacity (with G-Sensor Shock Protection) leaving you with plenty of storage for your collection of client files, resumè, and photography portfolio. In addition, you get 4GB of RAM, more than five hours of battery power, and the preloaded Sony Creativity Suite for editing and organizing media.

A Chip That Works & Plays As Hard As You Do

Intel's Latest Core Processors

The processor plays a crucial role in everything you do with your computer. It is intimately involved in the songs you listen to, burn, and rip; documents you create, edit, and share; movies you watch; media you stream; Web sites you browse; games you play; and everything else you do that makes your computer an invaluable productivity tool and the central hub of your personal entertainment. Yes, Intel's Core processors are aptly named.

Core i3

Intel's Core i3 processors represent the baseline of smart computing. These efficient chips provide extended battery life and reduced energy consumption, all at compelling computer price points. The Core i3 processors support Intel's Hyper-Threading technology for four-way processing and excellent multitasking performance.

The Latest From Intel

The latest Intel Core processors (www.intel.com) were engineered from the ground up to handle the multiple demanding tasks we typically subject our notebooks and desktops to, concurrently, and on a daily basis. Intel's latest offerings focus on efficiency and intelligence, enabling you to do more, enjoy more, and do both for longer than ever.

Core i5

The Core i5 processors reside on a higher performance tier than the Core i3s. They feature the same energy-efficient design and four-way processing functionality for a superior multitasking experience. Unlike the Core i3, however, the Core i5 comes with Intel's Turbo Boost Technology, which speeds up the processor when you need it and saves energy when you don't.

Core i7

The Intel Core i7 processors include all of the features of the Core i5, but with the capability to support even more simultaneous processes for extreme multitasking scenarios. With eight-way processing and Turbo Boost, there's not much risk of running too many operations on a computer with this baby.

Give Your Notebook The Big Screen Treatment

Intel's Wireless Display Puts Your Notebook On Your HDTV

Just because you have a notebook doesn't mean your computing experience has to be limited to your compact screen. With Intel's Wireless Display technology and Netgear's Push2TV Adapter, which are both standard on Best Buy's Blue Label notebooks or available for individual purchase, you can enjoy an immersive visual experience from your laptop to your HDTV.

The Deal With Wireless Display

Intel's innovative Wireless Display technology, which is featured on a number of laptops based on Intel Core processors, is capable of wirelessly streaming online media, Web sites, music, photos, and video content from your notebook to your HDTV. The key to the technology is that it is push-a-button simple to use.

How To Set It Up

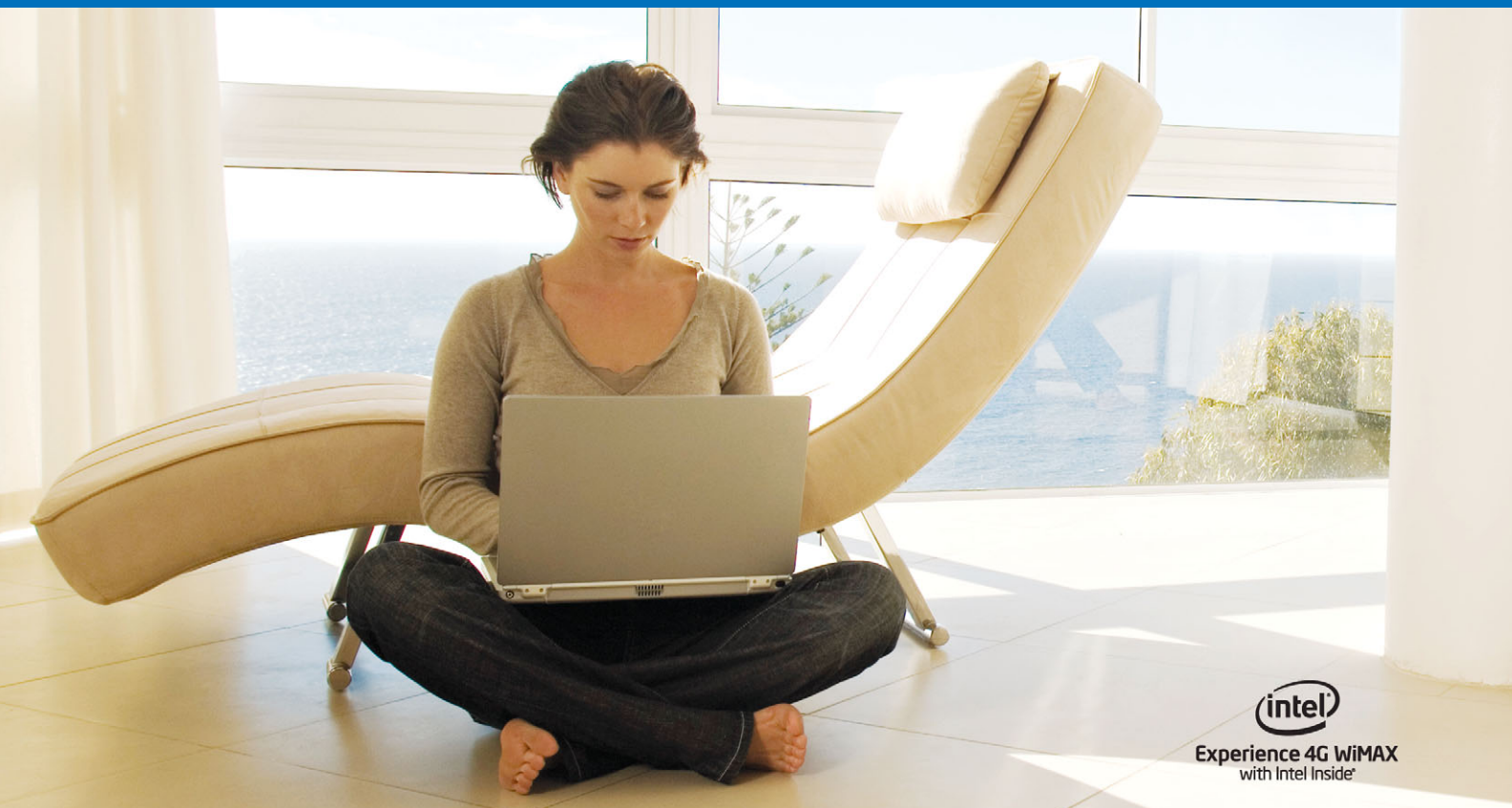
The most compelling aspect of Wireless Display, besides big screen computing, is the ease of setup. To create the connection, just connect the Netgear Push2TV Adapter to your HDTV using the included HDMI cable, power the device, select the appropriate HDTV input, and then push the dedicated Wireless Display button on your notebook.

The Wireless Display Trio

To start enjoying your laptop's content on your HDTV, these are the components you'll need.

Netgear Push2TV Adapter

- For those who don't have a Blue Label notebook, the adapter can be purchased separately.
- To connect a Wireless Display-capable notebook to multiple HDTVs, you can purchase additional adapters.



Wireless To The MAX

Intel PCs With WiMAX Keep You Connected

Wireless is the mobile device's gotta-have feature. However, the cellular 2G and 3G networks we use today were originally designed for voice communications. But with an Intel Core processor-based notebook with built-in 4G WiMAX, you can take advantage of an IP-based wireless network built to send and receive data at amazing speeds.

What Is WiMAX?

Think of WiMAX as the networking technology that makes it feel like you're connected to a speedy Wi-Fi hotspot, but unencumbered by walls and your physical distance from your home, favorite coffee shop, or anywhere else you roam throughout a typical day.

Intel developed WiMAX as a high-speed wireless Internet protocol that is capable of blanketing an entire metropolitan area, which lets users that work and play within that area enjoy blazing fast connectivity city-wide.

With broadband speeds and coverage areas similar to what your mobile phone has to offer, WiMAX will let you quickly access email, streaming video and audio, and music downloads and make Voice over IP phone calls wherever you go. But in order to connect to a WiMAX network, you need a device that features built-in support.

Jump On The WiMAX Express

For those who live in an area with 4G WiMAX coverage, you'll need a data plan from a service provider, such as CLEAR, and a WiMAX-compatible notebook or netbook.

4G WiMAX is being added to new cities all the time. Here's a list of select major cities that currently offer the wireless network.

Atlanta	Las Vegas
Austin	Philadelphia
Baltimore	Portland
Charlotte	Raleigh
Chicago	San Antonio
Dallas/Ft. Worth	Seattle
Houston	Tacoma
Kansas City	Washington, D.C.

Intel Inside Makes All The Difference

Wireless Display & WiMAX-Enabled Notebooks

Intel Wireless Display-Capable Notebooks. These notebooks let you beam your computing experience from the small screen of the notebook to the big screen of your HDTV.

	Intel Core Processor Type	Netgear Push2TV Adapter	Screen size (inches)	Hard drive size; RAM	Dimensions (HxWxD) (inches)
Asus U52F-BBl5					
SKU: 9963892	Intel Core i3 350M	Sold separately	15.6	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)	1.3x15.2x10.12
Asus U43F-BBA5					
SKU: 9964036	Intel Core i5 450M 2.4GHz up to 2.66GHz with Turbo Boost	Sold separately	14	640GB; 4GB (DDR3)	1.25x13.54x9.49
Samsung R580-11					
SKU: 9972957	Intel Core i3 350M	Sold separately	15	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)	9.41x13.54x1.2 to 1.49
Dell 15z-2249CPN					
SKU: 9684515	Intel Core i5 430M 2.26GHz up to 2.53GHz with Turbo Boost	Included	15.6	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)	1x15x9.9
Sony VPCEB23FM/BI					
SKU: 9979978	Intel Core i3 350M	Sold separately	15.5	320GB; 4GB (DDR3)	1.22x14.56x9.77
Sony VPCA24FM/W					
SKU: 9980021	Intel Core i3 350M	Sold separately	14	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)	1.07x13.6x9.39
Sony VPCEA24FM/L					
SKU: 9987752	Intel Core i3 350M	Sold separately	14	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)	1.07x13.6x9.39
Sony VPCEB26GM/BI					
SKU: 9999605	Intel Core i5 430M 2.26GHz up to 2.53GHz with Turbo Boost	Sold separately	15	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)	1.22x14.56x9.77
Sony VPCS111FM/S					
SKU: 9701289	Intel Core i5 430M 2.26GHz up to 2.53GHz with Turbo Boost	Included	13.3	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)	1.2x13x9
Toshiba A665-S6050					
SKU: 9988697	Intel Core i3 350M	Sold separately	16	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)	1.18 to 1.48x14.98x10
Toshiba R705-P25					
SKU: 1007392	Intel Core i3 350M	Sold separately	13	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)	0.66 to 1.01x12.44x8.94
Toshiba E205-S1904					
SKU: 9701191	Intel Core i5 430M 2.26GHz up to 2.53GHz with Turbo Boost	Included	14	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)	1.2x13.7x9.6

Intel 4G WiMAX-Capable Notebooks & Netbooks. Connect to the Web with Wi-Fi-like speeds, but with city-wide coverage.

	Intel Processor Type	Mobile Broadband	Screen size (inches)	Hard drive size; RAM
Dell i15R-1803MRB				
SKU: 9930137	Intel Core i3 350M	4G WiMAX	15.6	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)
Dell i14R-2265MRB				
SKU: 9934151	Intel Core i5 450M 2.4GHz up to 2.66GHz with Turbo Boost	4G WiMAX	14	500GB; 4GB (DDR3)
Dell iM1012-1091OBK				
SKU: 9935345	Intel Atom N450	4G WiMAX	10.1	250GB; 1GB
Toshiba M645-S4050				
SKU: N/A	Intel Core i5 450M 2.4GHz up to 2.66GHz with Turbo Boost	4G WiMAX	N/A	N/A

Microsoft's Wireless Mobile Mouse 3500
$29.99 | www.microsoft.com

The Perfect Pair *For Back To School*

With Microsoft® Wireless Mouse 3500 & Office 2010

If you or someone you know is gearing up to hit the books, then Microsoft (www.microsoft.com) has the perfect one-two punch to beat the end-of-summer blues: an attractive new wireless mouse and the ultimate in productivity software, Microsoft Office 2010. Available now at Best Buy, this pair is sure to be a hit with scholars everywhere.

Wireless Mobile Mouse 3500

Gone are the days of beige-boring PC peripherals. With its latest mice, Microsoft is pulling the style train into the input device depot for a much-needed makeover. The 3500 Studio Series mice ($29.99) sport three fun designs—the artistically inspired Folk Pink, geometric green Geode, and the organic multicolored Wave—to splash some new hues on your desktop, dorm room, or coffee shop tabletop.

With Microsoft's exclusive BlueTrack Technology™, you'll be saying goodbye to your mousepad because it combines the best parts of optical and laser mice for precise performance on virtually any surface*.

The new wireless mouse also utilizes an incredibly small Plug-And-Go Nano Transceiver, which lets you leave it plugged in when you move your notebook between the library and the cafeteria or carry it inside the house.

Microsoft Office 2010

Enabling users to create, connect, and access in more collaborative ways than ever before, Microsoft Office 2010 is the latest productivity platform that anyone can put to good use. Packed with the potential to revolutionize the way you work, three versions are available to suit a variety of needs: Microsoft Office 2010 Home and Student, Home and Business, and Professional.

With a number of new features designed to improve the way you work, you'll be able to use Office 2010 to wow your professors and students alike. You can embed video and broadcast your slideshows for offsite viewers with PowerPoint 2010. Excel's Sparklines feature allows you to generate mini-charts within cells, making data easier to analyze. Outlook 2010 cuts down the clutter in your email inbox by organizing long email strings into easy-to-follow conversations. And throughout all of the applications included with Office 2010, Microsoft's highly efficient Ribbon menu makes it easy to find the tools and options you want and reveals the hidden features you didn't know existed.

*BlueTrack Technology does not work on clear glass or mirrored surfaces.

Dual-Band Routers

Cut Out The Interference

Nearly every Wi-Fi network operates on the 2.4GHz frequency, which means you'll be competing for signal quality with neighbors. You may also experience radio interference from common household electronics, such as microwaves, landline phones, baby monitors, and mobile phones. To avoid this interference, you can invest in a dual-band router, which is an 802.11n wireless router that can broadcast on both the 2.4GHz and 5GHz frequencies.

Requirements & Setup

- You'll need a dual-band wireless adapter for any computer that you want to connect to the 5GHz wireless network. Dual-band wireless adapters are available as USB dongles or internal cards for desktop computers.
- The 5GHz frequency has a smaller range than the 2.4GHz frequency (50 feet vs. 100 feet). This means the PCs that connect to the 5GHz network will need to be located within 50 feet of the router.

The Power Of Dual-Band

- A dual-band router creates two 802.11n wireless networks, one in the 2.4GHz band and one in the 5GHz band. You can configure each one with different passwords and security credentials.
- Because the 5GHz frequency will be relatively free of interference, it'll provide faster Wi-Fi speeds. Thus, you should connect to it for streaming video or audio, downloading music, playing online games, copying files over your Wi-Fi network, or other tasks that require a speedy connection.
- Connect to the 2.4GHz network when you're checking email or browsing the Web. If there are multiple computers on your home network, the 2.4GHz frequency may seem faster than it used to, because you aren't sharing the connection with another computer that's downloading files or streaming video on the 5GHz frequency.

BY NATHAN LAKE

ESSENTIAL THINGS TO KNOW

Wireless Printers

Q What are the benefits of a wireless printer?

A Unlike a wired printer, you won't need to connect your computer to the printer with a cable. Instead, they connect via a wireless network.

Q Besides printing documents, what else can I do with a wireless printer?

A There are wireless printers that can fit different lifestyle needs. For example, a wireless photo printer is ideal for printing photos for scrapbooking. If you have a home office, a wireless all-in-one model will let you print, copy, and fax reports.

Q Without using a PC, can I print documents with a wireless printer?

A Yes, select wireless printers will let you print documents from the Web, while others will let you insert a digital camera memory card or USB flash drive to select and print items.

Q What does it mean when a printer has built-in wireless capabilities?

A When a printer has built-in wireless capabilities, you won't need to add a wireless adapter to connect it to a wireless network.

Q What is 802.11 b/g?

A This spec indicates the type of wireless connectivity technology the printer uses, and 802.11b/g is the most common wireless protocol you'll find. It's important to make sure your wireless router and printer use wireless networks that are compatible. Wireless-N routers will work with 802.11b/g network devices because they're backward-compatible.

Q What does it mean when a wireless printer has Bluetooth compatibility?

A Some wireless printers will allow you to print documents using smartphone apps. You may also be able to print from a PC using a Bluetooth connection, but an adapter for either your printer or PC may need to be purchased separately.

Q How do I add a wireless printer to my network?

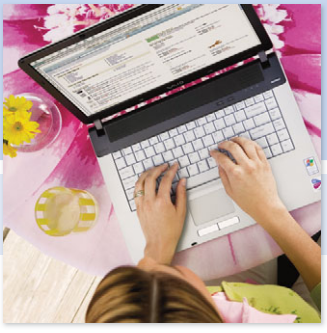
A Your wireless printer will include software that will walk you through a step-by-step process to connect your printer to your wireless network.

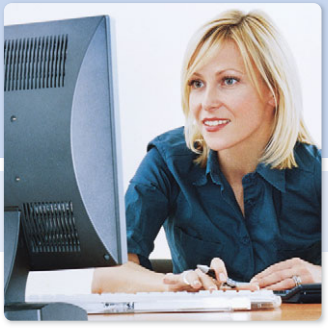
Q Can I place a wireless printer anywhere in my home?

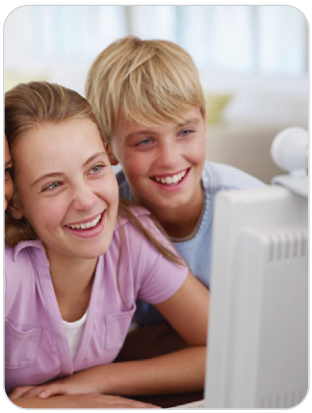
A Yes. If it remains within your wireless network's range, you can place a wireless printer anywhere in your home, such as in a central location.

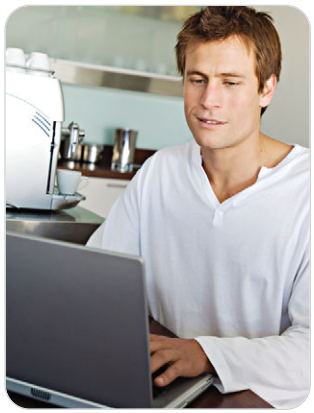
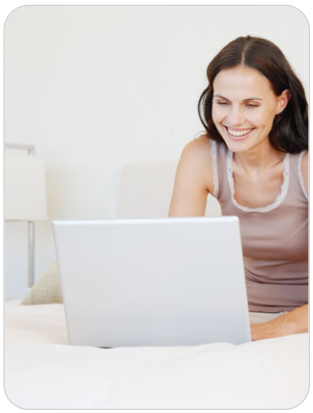
Q Can I connect multiple computers to a wireless printer?

A Yes. As long as each computer is connected to the same network as your printer, you will be able to print from it.







Computing Glossary

Shopping for a computer can be intimidating, especially with all of the complex terminology. Here, we'll explain some common computer jargon.

Bluetooth—A short-range wireless standard that connects devices such as computers, printers, PDAs, and digital cameras so they can be used together without being connected physically with a cord.

broadband—Network connections that transmit high-speed Internet access. Broadband speed varies depending on the provider. Cable companies offer speeds of around 8 to 11Mbps, whereas phone companies offer DSL (Digital Subscriber Line), which supports speeds of 3 to 5Mbps.

CRT (cathode-ray tube)—An old analog display technology for TVs and computer monitors. It features an electron gun illuminating phosphor dots that line the inside of a glass tube. When the phosphors are lit, they display on-screen images. CRTs consume a great deal of power and are heavy and bulky. Many CRTs support digital signals, though these degrade when converted to analog.

dual-core processor—This integrated circuit, which controls the computer, features two processors, each with its own cache, on a single die or chassis. In a dual-core configuration, the operating system has two processors to handle instructions, speeding up the computer and its ability to multitask.

Ethernet—A widely used LAN protocol in which computers and networks are physically linked with a cord.

firewall—Hardware or software that limits access by a network or another outside source to your computer; it also may limit your computer's access to the network. These security measures are designed to protect your computer from outsiders who'd like to exploit it in some way. By the same token, firewalls may prevent infected files on your computer from accessing the larger network and spreading the problem to other users.

LAN (local-area network)—A group of computers that are physically connected by wires so they can communicate with one another and share information.

LCD (liquid-crystal display)—This technology sandwiches liquid crystals between thin sheets of glass. The crystals twist and untwist to allow and block light from a backlight, forming the images you see. LCDs are thinner, lighter, and consume less power than CRTs. Initially used mostly in notebook PCs, you'll now find LCD TVs and computer monitors, and they are also in digital cameras, cell phones, and portable DVD players, among others.

office suite—Productivity software, such as Microsoft Office, StarOffice, and OpenOffice, that often includes word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, database, and financial tools.

operating system—The software, such as Windows Vista, Windows 7, or Mac OS X, that controls a computer and its peripherals and serves as the primary interface for the users.

processor—Also known as a microprocessor or the CPU, this integrated circuit controls the computer.

RAM (random-access memory)—A type of memory that's read from and written to by the CPU and hardware.

upgradeable—This term refers to the ability to add or swap out hardware to boost a computer's performance, increase its speed, or replace a defective or obsolete device or component. For instance, you may add more memory, replace an old CRT with a widescreen LCD, or swap out an older video card for a newer one that features an ATSC TV tuner so you can watch digital TV on your computer. Look for a computer with expansion slots or empty bays.

Which Notebook Computer Is Best For You?

A notebook computer is a pretty big purchase for most people, and it's usually a bit overwhelming, too. This chart compares the features and specs from several different types of notebook models.

	Operating system	Processor	Hard drive size; RAM	Screen size	Dimensions; Weight	Optical drives; Media card reader
What It Means	The software (usually Windows or Mac OS X) that controls your computer	Chip that controls the computer (typically, a bigger number is better)	How much data the computer can hold; Memory that's read and written to	The diagonal measurement of the notebook's screen	Height x width x depth; How much the laptop weighs	Drives that can read and write discs; Slots that read media cards without a separate peripheral
Dell I1545-4266PPU MSRP: $479.99* SKU 9693482	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.26GHz Intel Pentium	250GB; 3GB	15.6 inches	1.5x14.7x9.6 inches; 5.8 pounds	DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
HP dv4-2165dx MSRP: $649.99* SKU 9705373	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.13GHz Intel Core i3	500GB; 4GB	14.1 inches	1.34 to 1.57x 13.15x9.45 inches; 5.2 pounds	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
Toshiba Satellite E205-S1904 MSRP: $899* SKU 9701191	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.2GHz Intel Core i5	500GB; 4GB	14 inches	1.22x13.7x 9.57 inches; 5.1 pounds	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
Apple MacBook MSRP: $999* SKU 9944833	Mac OS X 10.6 Snow Leopard	2.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo	250GB; 2GB	13.3 inches	1.1x13x9.1 inches; 4.7 pounds	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; No
Dell Studio s15z-2249CPN MSRP: $999* SKU 9684515	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.2GHz Intel Core i5	500GB; 4GB	15.6 inches	N/A	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
Asus G60JX-RBBX05 MSRP: $999.99* SKU 9736955	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.26GHz Intel Core i5	500GB; 4GB	16 inches	1.6x10.4x 14.8 inches; 7.5 pounds	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
Sony VAIO VPCS111FM/S MSRP: $1,049.99* SKU 9701289 See p. 35	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.2GHz Intel Core i5	500GB; 4GB	13.3 inches	1.08 to 1.24x 12.95x9 inches; 4.4 pounds	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
Alienware M15x MSRP: $1,999* SKU 9722255	Windows 7 Home Premium	1.6GHz Intel Core i7	320GB; 4GB	15.6 inches	1.9x14.9x 12.2 inches; 9 pounds	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

Which Netbook Is Best For You?

Netbooks don't offer the full capabilities that notebooks do, but these compact devices are ideal for those who need to stay connected while on the go. To find the netbook that fits your mobility needs, here's a comparison of the latest models.

	Operating system	Processor	Hard drive size; RAM	Graphics card	Memory card reader	Ports
What It Means	The software (usually Windows XP or 7) that controls your PC	Chip that controls the computer (typically, a bigger number is better)	How much data the computer can hold; Memory that's read and written to	Controls the quality of the video and images you see on-screen	Slots that can read media cards without a separate peripheral	Sockets that give your computer access to different peripherals
MSI Wind U135-206US MSRP: $309.99* SKU 9748977	Windows 7 Starter	1.6GHz Intel Atom	160GB; 1GB	N/A	Included	3 USB, 1 Ethernet
Gateway LT2122u MSRP: $329.99* SKU 9728498	Windows 7 Starter	1.6GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	SD/MMC/ MS/MS PRO/ xD-Picture Card	3 USB, 1 Ethernet, 1 VGA
Samsung NP-N150-JA03US MSRP: $349.99* SKU 9727287	Windows 7 Starter	1.6GHz Intel Atom	160GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	SD/SDHC/ MMC	3 USB, 1 Ethernet, 1 VGA
HP 210-1080NR MSRP: $379.99* SKU 9739458	Windows 7 Starter	1.6GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	SD/MMC/ MS/MS PRO/ xD-Picture Card	3 USB, 1 Ethernet, 1 VGA
Asus Eee PC 1008PB-CFE002S MSRP: $399.99* SKU 9727702	Windows 7 Starter	1.6GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel UMA	MMC/SD	2 USB, 1 Ethernet, 1 VGA
Toshiba NB305-N410BL MSRP: $399.99* SKU 9705488	Windows 7 Starter	1.6GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	Included	3 USB, 1 Ethernet
Dell M1012-2044OBK MSRP: $449.99* SKU 9728692	Windows 7 Starter	1.6GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	Included	3 USB, 1 Ethernet
Sony VPCW211AX/L MSRP: $449.99* SKU 9724183	Windows 7 Starter	1.6GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	SD/MS Duo	2 USB, 1 Ethernet, 1 VGA

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Which All-In-One PC Is Right For You?

An all-in-one computer is compact, thanks to all its hardware being placed in the monitor. Some models offer a touchscreen interface that lets you access functions by selecting on-screen items with your finger, while others rely on a wireless mouse and keyboard. To see which all-in-one PC fits your needs, check out the chart below.

		Operating system	Processor	Hard drive size; RAM	Display; Optical drive	Ports	Graphics card
	What It Means	The software (usually Windows or Mac OS X) that controls your computer	Chip that controls the computer (typically, a bigger number is better)	How much data the computer can hold; Memory that's read and written to	Display size (measured diagonally); Disc drive included with the system	Inputs the computer has for accessing peripherals	Controls the quality of your video and images
	Averatec D1133AF1E-2 MSRP: $449.99* SKU 9952623	Windows 7 Home Premium	1.5GHz AMD Athlon X2	250GB; 2GB	18.4 inches; Double-layer DVD±RW/ CD-RW	4 USB, 1 Ethernet, media card reader	ATI Radeon HD 3200
	ViewSonic VPC 190 MSRP: $599.99* SKU 9907379	Windows 7 Home Premium	1.66GHz Dual-Core Intel Atom	160GB; 2GB	18.5 inches; Double-layer DVD±RW/ CD-RW	6 USB, 1 Ethernet, media card reader	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 900
	Sony VAIO VGC-JS450F/S MSRP: $999.99* SKU 9561592	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.7GHz Intel Pentium	500GB; 4GB	20.1 inches; Double-layer DVD±RW/ BD/CD-RW	1 USB, 1 Ethernet, media card reader	Nvidia GeForce 9300M GS
	Apple iMac MC413LL/A MSRP: $1,499.99* SKU 9611569	Mac OS X v10.6 Snow Leopard	3.06GHz Intel Core 2 Duo	1TB; 4GB	21.5 inches; Double-layer DVD±RW/ CD-RW	4 USB, 1 Ethernet, 1 FireWire, media card reader	ATI Radeon HD 4670
	Apple iMac MB952LL/A MSRP: $1,699* SKU 9611587	Mac OS X v10.6 Snow Leopard	3.06GHz Intel Core 2 Duo	1TB; 4GB	27 inches; Double-layer DVD±RW/ CD-RW	4 USB, 1 Ethernet, 1 FireWire, media card reader	ATI Radeon HD 4670
Touchscreens	**Gateway ZX4300-01e** MSRP: $749.99* SKU 9932711	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.7GHz AMD Athlon II X2	640GB; 4GB	20 inches; Double-layer DVD±RW/ CD-RW	6 USB, 1 Ethernet, media card reader	ATI Radeon HD 4270
	HP TouchSmart 300-1120 MSRP: $899.99* SKU 9912717	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.7GHz AMD Athlon II X2	750GB; 4GB	20 inches; Double-layer DVD±RW/ CD-RW	5 USB, 1 Ethernet, media card reader	ATI Radeon HD 3200
	HP TouchSmart 300-1122 MSRP: $999.99* SKU 9912753	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.8GHz AMD Athlon II X2	1TB; 4GB	20 inches; Double-layer DVD±RW/ CD-RW	5 USB, 1 Ethernet, media card reader	ATI Radeon HD 3200

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

Software Listings

Get More Out Of Your PC

Computers can be used to create greeting cards, play games, keep track of your finances, and more. The thing is, most of these functions aren't available straight out of the box. To fully harness your computer's potential, you'll need to buy software. Here are some options.

Art/Illustration/Graphics

Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 2
$299*
www.adobe.com
This photo management software from Adobe lets you quickly and easily import, process, manage, and showcase your images.

Corel PaintShop Photo Pro X3
$99.99*
www.corel.com
Corel PaintShop Photo Pro X3 lets you manage, edit, and share your digital photos. You can make automatic fixes in the enhanced Express Lab, or you can use the included advanced editing tools.

Broderbund PrintMaster Platinum
$39.99*
www.broderbund.com
Create projects such as photo greeting cards, scrapbook pages, family newsletters, and more with the templates and fonts included with PrintMaster Platinum. You can also edit photos before adding them to your projects.

Roxio Creator 2010
$99.99*
www.roxio.com
Use Roxio Creator 2010 to easily capture, enhance, and save your photos, videos, and audio projects. Sharing is available using a variety of methods. It also includes tutorials for advanced users and beginners.

Audio/Video

Pinnacle Studio Ultimate Collection
$129.99*
www.pinnaclesys.com
Pinnacle Studio Ultimate Collection comes with a full set of plug-ins and a Chroma-key green screen for advanced effects, editing, and production.

Roxio Toast 10 Titanium For Macs
$99.99*
www.roxio.com
Use Toast 10 Titanium from Roxio to burn audio tracks, video clips, and other data to disc. You can also convert files for playback on other devices.

Cakewalk Music Creator 5
$39.99*
www.cakewalk.com
A user-friendly interface lets you bring your music to life and give it a professional sound. You can record, transcribe, and print your very own music.

Apple Final Cut Express 4
$199*
www.apple.com
A drag-and-drop interface provides seamless movement between editing, trimming, and adding effects to your videos. The software is compatible with popular HD formats, including HDV and AVCHD.

Business Applications

Microsoft Office Home And Student 2010
$149.99*
www.microsoft.com
See p. 40
The Home and Student version of Microsoft Office 2010 has enhanced features for creating and managing documents and includes Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and OneNote.

Adobe Acrobat 9 Standard (Upgrade)
$99*
www.adobe.com
Upgrade to Adobe Acrobat 9 Standard to easily create, combine, and manage various PDF files with improved features.

Intuit Quicken Home & Business 2010
$99.99*
www.quicken.intuit.com
The 2010 version of Quicken Home and Business includes automatic bill reminders and a one-page view of your finances. Plus, it shows you where you are spending and where you can save.

Intuit QuickBooks Pro 2010
$179.95*
www.quickbooks.intuit.com
Easily keep track of your company's finances with QuickBooks Pro 2010. You can organize and reference your customer, vendor, and employee financial information all in one place.

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Games/ Entertainment

Activision Barbie & The Three Musketeers
$19.99*
www.activision.com
Choose a character with a unique ability to help you tackle obstacles and solve puzzles to uncover a plot against the prince and become a true musketeer.

Disney Interactive Studio Alice In Wonderland
$19.99*
disney.go.com/disney interactivestudios
Inspired by the Tim Burton film, this game lets you fall down the rabbit hole and experience Alice's adventure in Wonderland. You can play as the Mad Hatter, White Rabbit, or another character from the film to help Alice on her journey.

Electronic Arts The Sims 3
$49.95*
www.ea.com
Create your very own Sims. Customize their personalities, appearances, and homes and send them out into the world to explore the neighborhood and meet new friends.

Lego Indiana Jones 2: The Adventure Continues
$29.99*
www.lucasarts.com
Explore the locations from all four films and build your own levels and environments. And, all of your favorite characters are depicted in Lego form.

Home Productivity

Nuance Dragon NaturallySpeaking 10 Preferred
$199*
www.nuance.com
Dictate emails, reports, and documents much faster than you can type by letting Dragon NaturallySpeaking do the typing for you. The software has an accuracy rate of up to 99%.

Apple MobileMe
$99*
www.apple.com
MobileMe, Apple's Internet service, lets you keep your email, contacts, and calendar up-to-date across your iPhone, iPod touch, Mac, and PC. It also lets you store and share documents online via iDisk, and you can manage everything online through a suite of Web applications at www.me.com.

DeLorme Street Atlas USA 2010 Plus
$39.95*
www.delorme.com
Street Atlas USA 2010 Plus is updated with new roads and road names, and it's now ready to use on any of your favorive devices, such as GPSes, netbooks, computers, and smartphones.

Susteen Data Pilot Backup & Sync Kit (LG)
$24.99*
www.datapilot.com
Back up and sync your cell phone memory to your computer with a backup and sync kit. Kits for other phone manufacturers are also available.

Security/ Utilities

Kaspersky Lab Internet Security 2010
$79.95*
www.kaspersky.com
Kaspersky Internet Security 2010 includes protection from the latest viruses, spyware, and malware threats.

Kaspersky Lab Anti-Virus 2010
$59.95*
www.kaspersky.com
Kaspersky Anti-Virus 2010 includes essential protection against Internet threats, such as viruses, spyware, Trojans, and more as well as phishing and identity theft defense.

Webroot AntiVirus With Spy Sweeper 2010
$39.95*
www.webroot.com
Protect up to three computers from viruses and spyware. Spy Sweeper stops both known and potential threats by blocking suspicious activity and is compatible with Microsoft's Windows 7 operating system.

Trend Micro Titanium AntiVirus+
$39.95*
www.trendmicro.com
Trend Micro's Titanium Anti-Virus+ has been designed to run in the background, so it can provide protection from the latest threats without bogging down your system.

System Clean-Up & Repair

Avanquest Fix-It Utilities 10 Professional
$49.95*
www.avanquest.com
Fix-It Utilities 10 Professional can make your computer run like new. It performs more than 250 tests to see what is slowing your computer down and then fixes the problem, giving you better performance.

iolo System Mechanic
$49.95*
www.iolo.com
With System Mechanic, you can find and fix errors and fragmentation on your PC, clean out clutter, and optimize your system for best performance.

Acronis True Image Home 2010
$49.99*
www.acronis.com
This software backs up your entire computer, including the operating system, files, settings, and more, so you can easily re-create your system in the event of data loss.

iolo DriveScrubber
$29.95*
www.iolo.com
When it's time to get rid of your old computer, use DriveScrubber to ensure all of your personal data has been deleted. DriveScrubber will wipe your entire drive, including free space, and restore damaged drives.

NOTEWORTHY

Accessories & Services

A computer is a big investment, and now that you've taken the plunge, it's time to decide what accessories you need to go along with that shiny new purchase. We've rounded up several of our favorite extras for every computer owner. Whether you have a laptop or desktop, be sure to add these items to your shopping list to complete your computing experience.

KEYBOARD

- An ergonomic design can cut down on the wrist strain associated with carpal tunnel syndrome
- Bluetooth connectivity lends itself to a tidy desk because there's one less wire to contend with
- A specialty model, such as a gaming or media keyboard, adds functionality to your pastime of choice

USB HUB

- Offers an affordable way to connect all of your peripherals, even if you have more gadgets than USB ports
- Adds the convenience of easy USB access—no more reaching behind your computer to plug in your USB devices

EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE

- Protect precious video and photo memories: Back up to an external hard drive
- Keep your computer running more efficiently by saving large files, such as your media collection, on an external drive

MOUSE

- A wireless mouse will cut down on cable clutter at your desk and also offers the convenience of portability for laptop use
- A gaming mouse can deliver better accuracy and speed for the ultimate in control
- Consider customizable buttons if you want to be able to access media, files, or programs with one-touch access

CLEANING KIT

- Specially designed cleaners will keep your computer screen clean without running the risk of scratching its surface
- Cloths are often made of low-conductivity material in order to reduce static

SURGE PROTECTOR

- Ensure the electrical current running to your desktop or laptop computer doesn't exceed proper levels
- Portable models will protect your laptop when you're on the go for work or play

WEB CAM

- Bridge the gap between long-distance family and friends with online video chatting by adding a Web cam to your setup

PRINTER

- A quality photo printer will eliminate trips to the drugstore for 4x6 prints and give you the ability to instantly share your photo memories
- An all-in-one model is the perfect addition for any busy family that needs a device that can operate as a copier, scanner, fax, and printer

COMPUTING SERVICES

To keep your desktop or laptop computer in tip-top shape, take advantage of the computing services offered at your local CE retailer. They can help you keep your machine running smoothly and free from the dangers that lurk online.

- Computer Setup & Networking
- Virus & Spyware Removal
- Data Backup & Recovery
- Hardware & Software Upgrades
- Training & Consultation

Deliver Media To Portable Devices

How Do You Want Yours?

With all the compact devices that can deliver media to your fingertips, it's easy to stay entertained anywhere you go. Devices such as portable TVs, media players, and DVD players use a variety of ways to play the media you want. You just have to decide how you want it.

Disc Media

While driving to visit relatives, your family can watch movies and TV shows and listen to music or books on CD with a portable DVD player.

Many portable DVD players also have widescreen or dual displays and headphone jacks so everyone in the back seat can enjoy the entertainment.

Over-The-Air Media

Using a portable TV, such as the FLO TV Personal Television ($199.99; www.flotv.com), you can watch live television wherever a signal is available. A variety of programming is accessible, with a mix of network and cable channels.

A portable audio player with an HD Radio tuner can pull in crisp, clear audio over the air for you to enjoy while jogging through your neighborhood.

Downloaded Media

Portable media players, such as the Archos 5 Internet Tablet ($299.99 to $499.99; www.archos.com), can download and store music, videos, photos, games, and apps.

You can also download content onto your computer and use a USB cable and proprietary software to transfer it to your portable devices.

Streaming Media

Some portable media players have built-in Wi-Fi to stream media to the device and keep your internal memory free to store other things. This lets you enjoy Internet radio, Web videos, or other content from your PC on devices such as media tablets, smartphones, and other portable devices with wireless Web connections. A Web connection also allows for Web browsing, downloading media and applications, and instant messaging with friends and family.

BY TESSA WARNER BRENEMAN

Media In Your Pocket

Discover These MP3 Player Features

Not long ago, MP3 players were good for simply playing your MP3 songs, but now they have so much more to offer. For instance, some of the latest models feature built-in Wi-Fi, video playback, and ports for attaching external storage options. No longer a single-function device, MP3 players can expand your multimedia possibilities.

Connectivity Features

Pairing a Bluetooth-enabled MP3 player and a wireless headset will let you listen to music cord-free.

MP3 players with built-in Wi-Fi can connect to hotspots so you can stream online content, access your email account, and more.

A player with an integrated radio tuner lets you listen to local AM/FM stations, and an HD Radio tuner will play HD Radio. Some models include station presets so you can recall your favorite channels.

Multimedia Capabilities

Watch video content (some players support HD) that's streamed via an Internet connection or saved to your MP3 player's hard drive.

You can use your MP3 player as a photo viewer if it supports photo formats such as JPEG, BMP, PNG, or GIF.

Some MP3 players can use mobile applications. Once installed, you can use them to play games, follow your favorite sports teams, seek out concert venues, and much more.

Functionality & Storage

If you prefer an interface without buttons, an MP3 player with a touchscreen lets you scroll through and enlarge on-screen content with your finger.

If you can't fit your entire music collection on your MP3 player, a model that supports memory cards or USB drives will give you the flexibility to play songs from an external source.

Some MP3 players also feature ports for connecting to an HDTV or PC, so you can transfer data or view videos on a larger display.

BY JOANNA SAFFORD

Portable Navigation Devices

GPSes Offer New Features

With multiple satellites orbiting the Earth and constantly sending data to GPS receivers in your car, your backpack, or even strapped to your wrist, there's no longer any excuse for being lost. Rather than trying to read (and then refold) old-style paper maps while on the move, now we can access high-tech mapping info on small mobile devices.

In your car.

Portable GPS units for your car have become even easier to use while adding sophisticated features. Easily transferred from one vehicle to another, most now feature traffic overlays, turn-by-turn audio directions with realistic-sounding voices, 2D and 3D displays, and touchscreen interfaces. Many offer Bluetooth integration, allowing you to make hands-free telephone calls using the GPS unit's touchscreen and speaker, and others can even play MP3 audio files.

While you hike, hunt, or camp.

Hunters, hikers, and campers will appreciate the smaller, lightweight GPS devices that are easily carried in a pocket or fanny pack. A hiker can pinpoint her location and set waypoints as she walks; her digital "trail" is always there, so she can find her way back to the campground, ranger station, or favorite fishing spot. The newest portable devices are rugged and water-resistant. Caught in a downpour? Not a problem; your pocket-sized GPS can handle a little rain. Take it hiking, biking, camping, fishing, or geocaching, because it's rugged enough to stand up to some jostling around.

While you exercise.

If you're a fitness buff, there's a whole subset of GPS devices just for you. Wristwatch-sized units can monitor your heart rate as they track your location. Most can save speed, waypoints, miles traveled, calories burned, and elapsed time as you go. Transfer data from the GPS unit to your computer to generate robust and sophisticated reports on your health, your workouts, and your improved performance.

BY ROD SCHER

Compact Gadgets For Your Car

Audio & Video That Go With You

In a driving-oriented society, you have to learn how to make the most out of the ride and still drive responsibly. However, in-car entertainment options aren't limited to just AM and FM radio stations anymore; your options now include radio transmitters, portable video options, and Bluetooth-enabled mobile accessories. These gadgets will entertain you and help you communicate as you go throughout your day in the car.

Music Gadgets

FM transmitters output audio from your portable media player to your car speakers via your car radio frequencies, so you can listen to soundtracks, audio books, and other content stored on your player while road-tripping or during your daily commute.

Portable satellite radio devices can be used with vehicle kits, so you can dock your device in your car and listen to hundreds of commercial-free channels through your car speakers. These include a cable, antenna, and universal connector.

In-Car Video

Portable DVD players are best for passengers who prefer to watch movies with headphones. And once you reach your destination, you can take the player with you.

Rearview minicameras help you see what's happening behind your car, adding extra security. It also helps you back up safely.

Bluetooth Accessories

A Bluetooth kit attached to your car stereo will stream songs from your MP3 player or cell phone. These kits will also allow you to make hands-free calls, so you don't have to put the cell phone to your ear while driving.

Bluetooth transmitters for MP3 players, such as the Scosche Tunestream Stereo Bluetooth Transmitter for iPod and iPhone ($79.99; www.scosche.com), can stream music to a Bluetooth-enabled audio system.

BY JOANNA SAFFORD

Pocketable Camcorders

Capture Video On The Move

Summer presents many opportunities to shoot video and capture photos. With a compact camcorder or digital camera that fits into your bag or pocket, you can be ready to capture footage at the beach, park, or zoo. Then when someone asks you what you did this summer, you can pull out your camera and show them.

Conveniently Compact

Built-in flash memory allows for a smaller camera size, because there are no moving parts to take up space.

Cameras use memory cards for storing images. If your camcorder has a memory card slot, you can add storage capacity without adding to the camera's size and weight.

Many models have built-in LCD screens to record or view photos and video.

Packing Lots Of Punch

Many camera and camcorder models can capture high-definition video or high-resolution photos while also including built-in editing capabilities.

With included sharing software, it will be easy for you to upload video and photos to the Web and email your files after they've been retouched and edited.

You can also find image stabilization, automatic low-light detection, face detection, playback functions, and digital zoom on many camera and camcorder models. Some camcorders even have silent mode for recitals and lectures.

Video & Photos To Go

Some camcorders and cameras offer durable weatherproof designs that are ideal for both beach vacations and outdoor activities. And, with LCD screens that prevent sunlight reflection, you can enjoy viewing your content indoors and out.

A compact camcorder, such as the Flip UltraHD ($199.99; www.theflip.com), is affordable and easy to use, so anyone in the family can grab it and shoot footage at birthday parties or barbecues with ease.

With smile mode, you can be sure your compact camera will be able to adjust to your family and friends so you won't miss a picture-perfect moment.

BY TESSA WARNER BRENEMAN

Gaming On The Go

Portable Consoles Are Media Powerhouses

Snap a photo. Call a friend. Surf the Web. Listen to music. Watch some video. And, when you get a moment, play a game or two.

This isn't a smartphone we're talking about. It's a portable gaming console. And these aren't bargain-bin gizmos that just play a built-in game or two. These are full-fledged gaming systems with outstanding multimedia capabilities.

Made to play graphically intense (relatively speaking) games via downloads and/or discs, current portable consoles have advanced wide-screens up to 4.3 inches (measured diagonally). In fact, some have resolutions almost as high as DVDs plus support for millions of colors. With such nice screens, it's a small wonder that most pocket game systems also let you play videos, browse photos, and more.

Portable consoles often feature buttons and controls that are similar to the ones used by their "big brother" consoles made by the same manufacturers. Physically, of course, they're designed for pocketability. Some open like a small notebook with dual screens and side-mounted controls. Others have a sliding design that hides their buttons when not in use.

All This, Plus . . .

Gaming isn't everything, and there are scads of other ways you can enhance your mobile lifestyle with a portable console. Depending on the model, they support:

- Movie and TV show file playback
- Music file playback
- Audio editing, including removal of vocals for karaoke
- Photo slideshows and editing
- Media streaming from the manufacturer's flagship console
- A TV connection for sharing entertainment on a bigger screen
- Wi-Fi networking
- Internet browsing, email, and game and content downloading
- Connecting to your friends' portable consoles for gaming and sharing
- Multiplayer and cooperative gameplay
- Internet phone calling
- Bluetooth for a wireless headset
- Digital audio recording
- Snapshots from digital cameras
- Animation creation
- Personal calendaring with photos

BY MARTY SEMS

Small Computing

Is A Netbook Right For You?

Netbooks include a blend of features that make them ideal for Web-related tasks such as browsing the Internet, checking your email, or keeping in touch using your favorite social networking sites. However, it's important to note that a netbook doesn't offer the same functionality or features as a notebook, and it should be considered a PC companion. Read on to learn how a netbook can meet your mobile computing needs.

Netbook Connectivity

Every netbook has one or more of the following connectivity options built in, so you can stay connected on the go.

- Wireless LAN (802.11b/g/n) allows you to connect to the wireless hotspots in restaurants, libraries, and coffee shops.
- An integrated 3G broadband modem uses cellular technology to keep you connected in more places, even when a Wi-Fi hotspot isn't available.
- You can access the Internet by plugging an Ethernet cable into your netbook's Ethernet port and connecting it to a network.

Netbook Features & Benefits

Each feature you'll encounter on a netbook offers unique benefits that can simplify your mobile computing tasks such as emailing and Web-browsing.

Feature	What It Means	Lifestyle Benefit
Familiar operating system	Netbooks feature Windows XP or Windows 7 Starter editions.	You won't have to learn how to use a brand-new OS.
Lightweight and thin design	Most netbooks weigh 3 pounds or less. For example, Averatec's netbook with an Intel Atom processor weighs only 2.2 pounds.	You can take your netbook with you everywhere you go without hauling a lot of extra weight.
Reliable solid-state drive	There are no internal moving parts to break or wear out.	Your netbook can withstand accidental bumps, and your data will be safer.
Extended battery life	Small screen size, lower clock speeds, and no internal optical drive make netbooks low-powered with a battery life of up to 11 hours.	You can work for longer without needing to plug into a wall outlet.

BY KRIS GLASER BRAMBILA

Lug A Library's Worth

The Benefits Of eReaders

More than 500 years ago, Johannes Gutenberg changed the world by inventing movable type and putting books, heretofore reserved for the very wealthy and powerful, into the hands of the people. It was a revolution the importance of which cannot be overstated. Now another book-related revolution is upon us, this one involving digital books and eReaders.

Digital Convenience

eReaders can bring you books, blogs, and the Web wherever and whenever you need them. New electronic ink displays are easy on the eyes and provide a natural and familiar reading experience. And on models with Wi-Fi or 3G capabilities, you can shop right on the device: Select and pay for your purchase, and you can be reading your new book or magazine within a minute or two.

Extra Features

The new eReaders are feature-rich: Need bookmarks? Got it covered. Notes and highlights? No problem. Eyes a little weak? Just enlarge the text. And while many eReaders utilize a proprietary file format, most can also display books in a variety of popular file types, including PDF, Microsoft Word, text, ePub, and PDB.

More Than Books

eReaders are useful for more than just books. Need today's paper or the latest issue of your favorite magazine? Click a button and select the edition you want; it'll be on your eReader in 30 seconds. Music and media? Many eReaders can play MP3 files and display photos, and some can even read content aloud.

Perfect for students, businesspeople, or frequent travelers, eReaders can carry thousands of books in a backpack or purse: This means every textbook a student will ever read will be stored in one neat, lightweight package. And a businessperson or world traveler can carry every management book, every novel, every financial advice book, and every newspaper or magazine she could want.

BY ROD SCHER

SlingPlayer Lands On Android

A Great Mobile TV Experience

Just think of all that TV programming you pay for each month. Sports, movies, must-see TV . . . it's pouring in, all the time. Unfortunately, you can't always be home to enjoy it.

A DVR helps, of course, as it lets you record shows to watch another time. Assuming you have the time, that is. Between family activities, house chores, and sleep, your minutes at home may already be spoken for.

Come to think of it, most of your free time—your truly free time—happens when you're away from home. There's your lunch hour in the break room at work. Your daily commute via public transportation. Your workout on the exercise bike at the gym. Settling into hotel rooms when you're on the road.

With a Slingbox, you can take advantage of your free time on the go to catch up on your favorite shows. A Slingbox at home and the SlingPlayer Mobile app on your portable device makes it easy to watch live or recorded programming with the ability to pause, fast-forward, rewind, and even schedule DVR recordings over a 3G, 4G, or Wi-Fi connection. And for Android users, a new SlingPlayer Mobile for Android app ($29.99) enables the most advanced Slingbox viewing yet:

- The fastest connection and response times of any mobile SlingPlayer
- Easy touchscreen access to recently viewed channels
- An intuitive remote control layout
- Support for all U.S. carriers, including Verizon, Sprint, AT&T, and T-Mobile

Supported Slingbox models include the SOLO ($189.99) and the PRO-HD ($299.99). The new SlingPlayer Mobile app works with Android phones sold for use in the United States, Canada, Australia and select countries in the EU. The supported phones include the popular HTC Droid Incredible, HTC Evo 4G, and the Motorola Droid. For a complete list of the Android phones that are supported by SlingPlayer Mobile, see www.slingbox.com.

MP3 Player Glossary

Who doesn't want an MP3 player? It can help you relax, motivate you, and ensure you always have a song to match your mood. When you head to your local CE retailer to snag one, make sure you have this glossary so you can choose the perfect model.

AAC—Short for Advanced Audio Coding, this format is a competitor of the more common MP3 file format. It is the default format used by Apple.

Click Wheel—Apple's proprietary circular control on the front of the iPod.

Certified For Windows Vista—A certification from Microsoft that ensures your portable devices, such as MP3 players, and media, such as digital music and videos, are compatible with each other. This was once called PlaysForSure.

download—In terms of digital music, downloading is when you retrieve a song from an Internet site or another network connection and save it to your computer or portable music player. You can download songs from music Web sites such as iTunes, Napster, or Rhapsody.

DRM (digital rights management)—A security mechanism for digital media, associated with copyright. A common DRM scheme for digital music involves getting a licensed file to authorize playback of a free or purchased song.

earbuds—Small, circular devices you put into your ears so you can listen to music on your player. These serve the same function as headphones. Many music players include their own earbuds, but you can purchase a separate pair that are more comfortable or of better quality.

flash memory—Solid-state memory with no moving parts that is lightweight and small. In terms of digital music players, a flash-based player is lighter and smaller than a hard drive-based player, and also, it won't skip. Thus, flash-based players are popular for use during exercise. However, the capacity of a flash-based player isn't as large as a hard drive-based player.

FM tuner—If your music player has a built-in FM tuner, you will be able to listen to music that is broadcast from local radio stations.

hard drive—Storage that consists of rigid platters inside a fixed casing. In terms of digital music players, a hard drive-based player is larger and heavier than a flash-based player. Because of the moving parts (the platters), hard drive-based players are also prone to skipping. However, their capacities are much larger than those of flash-based players.

iTunes—An application that is downloaded onto your computer and lets you play, organize, download, and purchase music, videos, podcasts, and television shows on your portable media player or computer.

MP3—Perhaps the most popular digital audio encoding format. It compresses audio to about one-twelfth the original size while still providing excellent sound. In general, a 1MB MP3 file will last about one minute.

playlist—A queue of songs a user creates to play on a computer, burn to a CD, or transfer to an MP3 player. The playlist includes only directions to the location of the songs, not the songs themselves.

podcast—A downloadable episode that is similar to a radio program. A user can subscribe to a podcast for updated episodes, or she can download podcasts one at a time.

screen—The display on the front of a portable music player. A player's screen can either display in color or black and white.

WMA—Windows Media Audio is a digital audio format created by Microsoft.

widescreen—A screen with a 16:9 aspect ratio.

Which MP3 Player Is Best For You?

iPods are cool, sure, but you have other choices when it comes to listening to your tunes. This chart compares the most important—and coolest—features from select MP3 players.

	Memory type	Capacity	Songs	Video; FM tuner capabilities	Colors	Battery life
What It Means	Hard drive (moving parts, more capacity) or flash (no moving parts)	How much memory the player has	Based on four-minute songs at 128Kbps, the number a player can hold	Some MP3 players can play video or let you listen to radio stations	Several players offer a variety of color choices	How long the battery will last when playing music
SanDisk Sansa Clip+ MSRP: $39.99*; $49.99* SKU 9448564	Flash	2GB; 4GB	500; 1,000	No; Yes	Black, red, blue	15 hours
Apple iPod shuffle MSRP: $59*; $79* SKU 9229765	Flash	2GB; 4GB	500; 1,000 (AAC)	Neither	Black, silver, pink, green, blue	10 hours
Sony W Series Walkman MSRP: $59.95* SKU 9964382	Flash	2GB	N/A	Neither	Black	11 hours
Sony E Series Walkman MSRP: $79.95* SKU 9443792	Flash	8GB	N/A	Both	Black	30 hours
Apple iPod nano MSRP: $149*; $179* SKU 9416376	Flash	8GB; 16GB	2,000; 4,000 (AAC)	Both	Pink, orange, green, blue, purple, black, silver	24 hours
Finis SwiMP3 MSRP: $149.99* SKU 9525515	Flash	1GB	240	Neither	Blue	8 hours
Apple iPod touch MSRP: $199*; $299*; $399* SKU 8771732	Flash	8GB; 32GB; 64GB	1,750; 7,000; 14,000 (AAC)	Yes; No	Black	30 hours
Microsoft Zune HD MSRP: $199.99*; $269.99* SKU 9449581	Flash	16GB; 32GB	4,000; 8,000	Both	Black, silver	33 hours

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

Which GPS Device Is Right For You?

One of the hottest CE devices around right now is a GPS, and what a useful device it is, too. Here, we compare some models available on today's market. All of these units come with maps already loaded, and you can purchase additional maps, as well.

	Screen size; Dimensions	Text-to-speech; Traffic receiver	Preloaded maps	WAAS	Bluetooth; MP3 playback	Included charging adapters
What It Means	The diagonal measurement of the screen; Height x width x depth	Unit calls out specific street names; Unit receives traffic updates and reroutes accordingly	The regional maps that come included with the GPS unit	A satellite and ground station system that gives exceptional GPS accuracy	Some units communicate wirelessly with other Bluetooth devices or play MP3s	AC adapters plug into the wall; DC adapters plug into your car's cigarette lighter
Insignia NS-NAV01 MSRP: $99.99* SKU 9351603	4.3 inches; 3.1x4.7x0.6 inches	Yes; No	Entire U.S.	Yes	No; No	DC adapter
TomTom XL 335LE MSRP: $129.99* SKU 9927276	4.3 inches; 3.3x4.8x0.9 inches	Yes; No	Entire U.S.	No	No; No	DC adapter
Garmin nüvi 255 MSRP: $139.99* SKU 8977574	3.5 inches; 2.9x3.9x0.8 inches	Yes; No	Entire U.S. (including Puerto Rico) and Canada	No	No; No	DC adapter
Magellan RoadMate 1424 MSRP: $149.99* SKU 9894383	4.3 inches; 3.2x4.8x0.7 inches	Yes; Yes (with optional Traffic Link adapter)	Entire U.S. (including Puerto Rico) and Canada	Yes	No; No	DC adapter
Insignia NS-CNV20 MSRP: $179.99* SKU 8947312	4.3 inches; 3.2x4x0.9 inches	Yes; Yes	Entire U.S.	Yes	Yes; No	DC adapter; AC adapter
TomTom XL 350TM MSRP: $229.95* SKU 9927197	4.3 inches; 3.2x4.7x0.9 inches	Yes; Yes (with optional traffic receiver)	Entire U.S. (including Puerto Rico) and Canada	No	No; No	DC adapter
Magellan RoadMate 3065 MSRP: $299.99* SKU 9904781	4.7 inches; 3.4x5.4x0.6 inches	Yes; Yes	Entire U.S. (including Puerto Rico) and Canada	Yes	Yes; No	DC adapter
Garmin nüvi 3790T MSRP: $449.99* SKU 9888961	4.3 inches; 2.9x4.8x0.4 inches	Yes; Yes	Entire U.S. (including Puerto Rico) and Canada	No	Yes; No	DC adapter

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

NOTEWORTHY

Accessories & Services

No matter where you go, a wireless device can add enjoyment to your journey. To make sure you are taking full advantage of the capabilities your wireless devices offer, check your local CE retailer for accessories that can enhance your mobile experiences. We've listed our favorites below.

GPS CHARGERS

- Make sure your travel companion always has a full battery
- If you do run out of battery, charge your GPS with an adapter; these can plug into a wall, PC, or car's DC outlet

MP3 PLAYER CASES

- Protect your MP3 player from bumps and scratches
- Quickly access your player's functions with a clip
- Keep your player out of your way with an armband

GPS MOUNTS

- Mounts can be placed on a car dash or stuck to a windshield to be within reach

MP3 PLAYER EARPHONES

- Match earphones to your needs: If you don't want anything bulky, opt for earbuds that fit inside your ear; to hear every musical detail, try headphones that cover the ear completely
- Listen to your music without the interference of background noise with earphones that offer a noise-canceling feature

CELL PHONE CHARGERS & BATTERIES

- Keep your phone charged no matter where you are; adapters for your cell phone let you use solar power, your car's DC outlet, wall power, or your computer to charge your phone
- Be prepared for emergencies with extra cell phone batteries

MP3 PLAYER DOCKS & SPEAKERS

- Portable speakers let you play music for a group; some include radios and can also play CDs
- With a portable dock, you can recharge your player's battery as you listen to music
- Play your music through car speakers using an FM transmitter

CELL PHONE CASES

- Safeguard your phone from wear and tear with a case
- Universal cases fit most sizes of cell phones; some of these will include clips and wrist straps for portability and accessibility
- Fitted cases specifically fit your phone's model type; these can be hard acrylic casings, rubber sleeves, or leather pouches
- Avoid getting scratches and fingerprints on your phone's screen with stick-on or hard, clear screen protectors

CELL PHONE HEADSETS

- Keep your hands free while still being able to use your phone
- Link compatible cell phones to a Bluetooth headset to make or take calls without a tangled mess of cables
- Use a headset that offers noise-canceling capabilities to ensure you don't miss any of your conversation

MOBILE SERVICES

Whether your wireless device is brand-new or nearing the end of its life span, your local CE retailer offers services to help you take care of all of your wireless device's needs.

- Protection plans for GPSes, MP3 players, and cell phones
- Phone and battery recycling
- GPS setup and deck installation
- MP3 vehicle integration
- MP3 player setup and training
- Cell phone repair services and loaner phones

HOW TO BUY A

Turntable

What To Consider Before Spinning Vinyl

Although they never entirely went away, turntables are making a comeback thanks to audiophiles seeking the warmer audio quality that analog LPs offer vs. digital files, younger users curious to what the hype is all about, and the modern features manufacturers have added to bring conventional turntables into today's digital age. When buying a turntable, consider the following advice.

Budget. Literally, a high-end turntable can cost the equivalent of what you'd spend on a top-shelf luxury car. Fortunately, less-expensive but still suitable options exist. Entry-level turntables (roughly $100 to $250), for example, are fine for first-time owners starting an LP collection, those who primarily want to transfer their old LPs into new digital files, and prospective DJs who'll put excessive wear and tear on a turntable.

. . . less-expensive but still suitable options exist.

Ports. Beyond playing analog-recorded albums, many modern turntables integrate features tied to digital music. USB ports let you transfer album-based analog recordings into digital files for MP3 player playback. Docks and auxiliary line-in inputs allow you to connect MP3 players, which is particularly useful for DJs, and CD burners can copy albums directly to CDs.

USB ports let you transfer album-based analog recordings into digital files for MP3 player playback.

Cleaning accessories. Many audiophiles clean an LP before spinning it to safeguard against dirt, dust, and other undesirables; prolong the turntable's needle (also called a stylus); and bring out subtle details in a recording. Every turntable owner should invest in a wet and/or dry cleaning brush and cleaning fluid specifically made for LPs.

Amplification. Compared to modern digital audio devices, turntables output a weaker signal that necessitates amplification. Older stereos (typically pre-1990s) contain a phono preamp to do just this. Many modern A/V receivers don't. To work around this, look for a turntable with a phono preamp or consider a turntable with built-in speakers. Another option is to buy a separate phono preamp. (Some can also convert analog signals to digital.)

. . . look for a turntable with a phono preamp . . .

BY BLAINE FLAMIG

Insignia Infocast Internet Media Display
$169.99 • www.bestbuy.com

An Internet & Media Device With Free Apps

Access Your Favorite Parts Of The Internet In Any Room

With Insignia's Infocast Internet Media Display ($169.99; www.bestbuy.com), you can instantly view and share photos and videos and access your favorite Web-based content via 1,500+ apps. Best of all, there are never any fees for the apps. Ever.

Vibrant Touchscreen Display

The Infocast Internet Media Display offers a sharp, responsive 8-inch color touchscreen display that's convenient for accessing your favorite photos, videos, and apps. And with 2GB of internal memory, compatibility with all major memory cards, and apps that pull pictures from online sharing sites such as Picasa, Facebook, and Photobucket, it's never been easier to share with friends and family. The Infocast supports SD, SDHC, MMC, CF, xD-Picture card, Memory Stick, and Memory Stick PRO Duo.

Perfect For Any Room

The Infocast works great in any situation. Use it as an alarm clock and wake up to Pandora, today's weather, and your email. Use it as a digital photo frame in the living room and flip through photos you snapped with your camera or photos friends and family post to sharing sites such as Flickr. Use it as a companion in the kitchen and listen to music, look up recipes, and check your calendar. You can even take it to the office to keep up with top news stories, stock quotes, and podcasts.

See & Hear The Latest Info

By accessing a Wi-Fi connection, the Insignia Infocast can keep you up-to-date through a variety of information sources. Whether it's checking your Facebook news feed, following tweets on Twitter, or listening to your favorite ShoutCast podcasts, you'll always be in the know. The device also includes a microphone and SRS Sound Technology for high-quality audio input and output. And for even better sound and flexibility, you can connect it to external speakers.

Free Apps. Yes, Free.

Infocast users can easily customize their devices with over 1,500 apps from chumby industries at no charge and with no subscription fees. There are chumby apps in almost every conceivable category: From games and entertainment to education and humor, and from employment and weather to news and travel, all apps are free for users of devices compatible with chumby apps, such as the Infocast tablet. And because the Infocast can freely copy files to other Infocast devices, friends and family can share apps, photos, and videos simply by dragging and dropping files from one device to another.

ESSENTIAL THINGS TO KNOW

Weather Stations

Q What kind of information does a weather station typically display?

A Nearly all weather stations list both indoor and outdoor temperatures as well as the time. Many models also feature a three- or four-day weather forecast with condition icons, such as the sun or clouds with rain, and the day's expected high temperature.

Q Can a weather station also measure humidity, heat index, wind, and other climate conditions?

A Yes, if a weather station supports the use of thermo-hygro sensors to receive dew point, atmospheric, or barometric readings, it will display additional condition information.

Q How does a weather station know what the temperature is?

A To detect the current outdoor temperature, most weather stations use a wireless sensor that you place outside to receive temperature information. These sensors have a range of up to 330 feet. An additional sensor on the weather station will determine the current indoor temperature.

Q Why is the transmission range of the weather station's wireless sensor important?

A If the range of the wireless sensor is too short, you may be limited to placing the sensor in areas that don't reflect the true air temperature, such as near pavement or in a regularly sunny area.

Q What's the benefit of an Internet-connected weather station?

A By connecting to the Internet, a weather station can receive detailed forecasts from the National Weather Service or other professional organizations. At a glance, this will let you see how weather conditions will change throughout the day and access forecasts for other cities.

Q What's the benefit of a weather station that can show forecasts for more than one location?

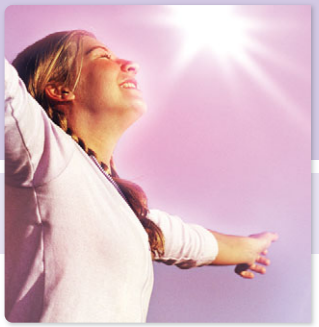
A This feature will let you see weather information for cities where your friends and family are without going online or watching TV. If you regularly travel or work in other parts of the country, this is a convenient way to keep abreast of the weather.

Q Can a weather station help me prepare for the conditions at a specific venue, such as a golf course?

A Yes, some Internet-connected models feature weather information for points of interest, such as sports venues, parks, and golf courses, to help you plan your day. Typically, a weather station will break down the forecast into different times throughout the day and list the sunrise and sunset time.

Q Will a weather station alert me of impending severe weather?

A Some Internet-connected models are capable of alerting you to severe weather warnings issued for your city or ZIP code.



This Month's Blu-ray Disc Releases

A Single Man

Rating: R | **Format:** Blu-ray Disc | **MSRP:** $34.95* | **SKU:** 18589052

Release Date: 7/6/2010

Our Family Wedding

Rating: PG-13 | **Format:** Blu-ray Disc | **MSRP:** $29.99* | **SKU:** 1001237

Release Date: 7/13/2010

The Bounty Hunter

Rating: PG-13 | **Format:** Blu-ray Disc | **MSRP:** $38.96* | **SKU:** 18609751

Release Date: 7/13/2010

	Date	MSRP*	SKU	Rating
July				
A Single Man	7/6	$34.95	18589052	R
Accidents Happen	7/27	$29.98	18561742	R
Alpha Dog	7/13	$26.98	1017335	R
Assault On Precinct 13	7/13	$26.98	1017344	R
Batman: Under The Red Hood	7/27	$24.99	1008373	PG-13
Battlestar Galactica: Season 3	7/27	$89.99	18613727	N/A
Being Human: Season 1	7/20	$34.99	1006648	N/A
Beyond The Darkness	7/27	$24.95	18529692	N/A
Bitten	7/6	$24.99	18582778	R
Black Narcissus	7/20	$34.99	1014277	N/A
Cats & Dogs	7/20	$24.98	18518378	PG
Chloe	7/13	$34.95	18638635	R
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon	7/27	$24.95	8165558	PG-13
Evil Aliens	7/20	$17.98	18561979	N/A
Eyeborgs	7/6	$29.98	18562696	N/A
Fanboys	7/27	$19.97	1017229	PG-13
Fireplace Impressions	7/13	$14.98	18628161	N/A
Forbidden World	7/20	$26.97	18582969	R
Galaxy Of Terror	7/20	$26.97	18582978	R
Greenberg	7/13	$39.98	18600896	R
In Bruges	7/13	$26.98	18553121	R
Insomnia	7/13	$19.99	9963046	R
Ip Man	7/27	$24.99	1014259	N/A
Jason & The Argonauts	7/6	$24.95	18575302	G
Jimmy Hollywood	7/6	$19.99	18567124	N/A
Johnny Handsome	7/27	$19.99	1001176	R
Just Another Day	7/20	$29.98	18561906	R
Ladybugs	7/6	$19.99	18567197	PG-13
Larry The Cable Guy: Git-R-Done	7/6	$17.98	18562669	N/A
Last Chance To See	7/6	$39.98	18621826	N/A
Leaves Of Grass	7/27	$24.98	18523843	R
Life After People: Complete Season 2	7/27	$39.95	18540749	N/A
Lock Up	7/27	$19.99	1001185	R
Love & Other Disasters	7/6	$17.98	18562632	R
Middle Of Nowhere	7/13	$29.98	18562832	R
Mother	7/20	$24.99	18582905	R
Operation: Endgame	7/27	$24.99	9996089	R
Our Family Wedding	7/13	$29.99	1001237	PG-13
Parasomnia	7/13	$24.98	18572996	R
Poirot: Classic Collection	7/27	$59.99	18468203	N/A
Puppetmaster	7/27	$25.98	18625516	N/A
Rambo	7/27	$19.99	1001149	R
Shark Week: Jaws Of Steel Collection	7/13	$24.98	18571272	TVPG
Stargate Universe 1.5	7/27	$32.99	1001219	N/A
Steamboat Bill, Jr.	7/6	$34.95	18580325	N/A
Steve Byrne: The Byrne Identity	7/6	$17.98	18561833	N/A
The Bounty Hunter	7/13	$38.96	18609751	PG-13
The Greatest	7/13	$26.98	18628259	R
The Red Shoes	7/20	$34.99	1014213	N/A
Tin Man	7/20	$19.97	18550203	N/A
Uncle Nino	7/20	$34.99	18604374	PG
Victor/Victoria	7/27	$17.98	18563598	N/A
White Collar: Season 1	7/13	$69.98	9895737	N/A

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

ESRB Game Ratings & Descriptions

Find Material That's Appropriate For Your Kids

ESRB (Entertainment Software Rating Board) Ratings

In order for parents to select gaming software appropriate for their children, ESRB (www.esrb.org) ratings are listed on the front and back of most game packages to provide concise and impartial details about a title's content.

Early Childhood. Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 3 and older. These software titles contain no material that parents would find inappropriate.

Everyone. Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 6 and older. Games in this category may contain minimal cartoon, fantasy, or mild violence and infrequent use of mild language.

Everyone 10+. Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 10 and older. Games in this category may contain more cartoon, fantasy, or mild violence and language as well as minimal suggestive themes.

Teen. Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 13 and older. Titles in this category may contain violence, suggestive themes, crude humor, minimal blood, simulated gambling, or infrequent use of strong language.

Mature. Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for persons ages 17 and older. Games in this category may contain intense violence, blood and gore, sexual content, or strong language.

Adults Only. Titles with this rating have content that is only suitable for persons 18 years and older. Games in this category may include prolonged scenes of intense violence, graphic sexual content, or nudity.

For additional information, ESRB ratings on the back of game packages include content descriptions and depictions.

GAMING TIPS FOR PARENTS

Aside from checking a game's ESRB ratings, there are other ways you can ensure the games your youngsters are playing are age-appropriate.

- Carefully look at everything on a title's packaging, including the game graphics.
- Find game reviews, screen shots, or demos to get a better idea of a game's content.
- If available, use the game's parental controls to restrict inappropriate content.
- Learn about games by talking to other parents and older children who are familiar with or have played certain titles.
- Participate in your children's gaming and discuss their games as much as possible.
- Be aware of nonrated ESRB material a game may contain. "Mods" are program downloads that can alter a game's content, and online games often have live player chats as well as other user-generated content.

Which Gaming System Is Best For You?

Game consoles and portable devices are no longer limited to gameplay. They can also access the Internet, download media, and play your favorite DVDs or CDs. To help you find a gaming device that will suit you well, here's a comparison of the most popular selections you can find at your local CE retailer.

		Hard drive size	Compatible memory cards	Optical drive	Video resolution output	Ports
	What It Means	How much data the system can hold	Cards that will let you save and offload data, such as game saves or personal media	Aside from game discs, other playable media formats	Highest number of video pixels that is sent to a TV or portable console screen	Hookups for controllers as well as video and audio outputs
Console Devices	**Sony PlayStation 3** MSRP: $349.99* SKU 9611611	250GB	PlayStation and PlayStation 2 cards with optional USB memory card adapter	CD, DVD, BD	1,920 x 1,080	1 A/V, 1 Ethernet, 1 HDMI, 1 optical digital audio, 2 USB
Console Devices	**Nintendo Wii** MSRP: $199.99* SKU 9916446	512MB	SD/Nintendo GameCube Memory Card	Can only play game titles	720 x 480	4 controller, 1 Component, 1 Composite, 1 S-Video, 2 USB
Console Devices	**Microsoft Xbox 360 Elite** MSRP: N/A SKU N/A	120GB	Xbox 360 Memory Unit	CD-RW, DVD-RW, and more	1,920 x 1,080	1 A/V, 1 Ethernet, 2 memory, 1 HDMI, 3 USB
Portable Devices	**Nintendo DSi** MSRP: $169.99* SKU 9249725 (blue)	256MB	SD	None	Dual 256 x 192	1 headphone, 1 microphone
Portable Devices	**Nintendo DSi XL** MSRP: $189.99* SKU 9760166	256MB	SD	None	Dual 256 x 192	1 headphone, 1 microphone
Portable Devices	**Sony PSPgo** MSRP: $249.99* SKU 9459659	16GB	Memory Stick Micro	None; download to internal and removable memory only	480 x 272	1 USB, 1 headphone
Portable Devices	**Sony PlayStation Portable 3000** MSRP: $169.99* SKU 9175082	64MB	Memory Stick Duo	UMD (Universal Media Disc)	480 x 272	1 video out/ headset, 1 USB, 1 DC out

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

	Online community	Wi-Fi access; Media streaming	Parental controls	Compatible game formats	Included accessories & services	Available accessories	Controllers	Perfect for
	Web site membership for downloads, upgrades, and more	Access the Internet without a cable hookup; Send and receive media wirelessly	Help parents decide what content their kids can or cannot access	Game titles that can be played on the game system	Accessories included with the console	Extras that can help enhance your gameplay	Included controllers; wired/wireless controller compatibility	Who can benefit from the special features the gaming system offers
	Yes, free PlayStation Network membership	Yes, 802.11b/g; Yes	Included, options available for PS3 games, BDs, DVDs, and Internet	Sony PlayStation 3 titles and select PlayStation titles	DualShock 3 wireless controller, USB cable, PlayStation Network membership, A/V cable	Blu-ray remote, Bluetooth headset, memory card adapter, wireless keypad, cables	Includes 1 DualShock 3 wireless controller; wireless	Someone who wants the value of a full gaming system with a BD player and media streaming
	Nintendo Wi-Fi Connection	Yes, 802.11b/g; Netflix streaming	Included, options available for Wii titles, online features and downloads, and more	Nintendo GameCube and Wii titles	Wii remote and nunchuck, sensor bar, Wii Sports game, console stand, A/V cable, adapter	Wireless Wii remote, wheel, classic (wired) controllers, wireless sensor bar	Includes 1 wireless Wii remote and nunchuck; both (some titles require a wired remote)	Gamers of any age who want a unique wireless gaming experience that requires little gaming knowledge
	Yes, free Silver membership to Xbox Live and free Gold membership for one month	Available with optional networking adapter accessory; Yes	Included, options available for Xbox Elite console and Xbox Live	All Xbox 360 games and more than 300 Xbox games	Wireless controller, headset, A/V cable, network cable, Netflix trial	HDMI cable, Xbox 360 hard drive, universal media remote, networking adapter	Includes 1 wireless controller; wireless	Those who want to play games in HD with full theatrical sound and need a console with plenty of hard drive space
	Nintendo Wi-Fi Connection	Yes; Yes	Included, options available for Nintendo DSi content	Nintendo DSi and Nintendo DS titles	AC adapter, 2 styli	Audio headset, battery power pack, screen protectors, carrying cases, styli	N/A	Users who want a handheld gaming system that lets them take, personalize, and share photos
	Nintendo Wi-Fi Connection	Yes; Yes	Included, options available for DSi software, DSi Browser, DSi Shop, and more	N/A	Rechargeable battery, AC adapter, stylus, and 4 preinstalled titles	Cases, adapters, headphones, full-sized stylus	N/A	Those who want a handheld gaming system better-suited for social gaming with a large screen
	Yes, PlayStation Network	Yes, 802.11b; Yes	Included	Available for download from PlayStation store	AC adapter, USB cable	Protective screen film, cradle, headphones, memory cards, cases	N/A	Those who need a bigger screen for their gaming, Internet, and media entertainment
	Yes, free PlayStation Network membership	Yes, 802.11b; No	Included, options available for UMDs, Internet, and video downloads	PlayStation Portable titles	AC adapter, battery pack	Battery charger, travel case, memory cards, A/V cable, AC adapter, car adapter	N/A	Those who want to enjoy gaming as well as movies, photos, and music when they're on the go

NOTEWORTHY

Accessories & Services

The gaming experience goes beyond the game itself—you need the right console peripherals and the best just-in-case services. We've compiled a list of some of the must-have accessories that will only enhance your gameplay, so be sure to remember these items on the next trip to your local CE retailer.

RACING WHEELS

- A gaming steering wheel puts you in the driver's seat of a virtual race
- A comfortable, accurate wheel will give you more control with turns, braking, and acceleration
- Be sure to purchase a racing wheel that's compatible with your specific gaming console

USB DEVICES

- A USB media hub will let you connect other USB devices (including MP3 players and portable gaming devices) to your game console
- Use a USB rechargeable battery pack to charge the Li-Ion battery for guitar controllers

GAMING KEYBOARD

- Adding a keyboard can help game efficiency—type in text codes and chat with other players quickly
- Look for a model with a touchpad so you can easily scroll around the game display
- Models that offer hotkeys will enable you to quickly perform tasks, such as gameplay actions

MUSIC CONTROLLER ACCESSORIES

- Add a heavy-duty bass pedal to your gaming drum set to replace your standard pedal
- A tripod microphone stand will make your song-based games more true to life
- Extra cymbals for your rock drum kit will give you more freedom to express musical ability

EXTERNAL MEMORY

- External hard drives, USB drives, or memory cards back up your in-progress games
- When additional memory is connected to live (online) games, you can save gaming content and downloads
- The more memory you have, the more games and downloads you'll be able to store

HEADSETS

- Use a hands-free headset to enhance your gaming experience by planning strategies aloud with your team
- A Bluetooth 2.0 headset is designed to communicate with your gaming console; Bluetooth headsets will be compatible with most game consoles
- Consider noise-canceling headsets with echo-minimizing microphones so you can hear and be heard clearly

WIRELESS CONTROLLER

- Bluetooth technology lets you play while also having the freedom to move around
- Some controllers use traditional AAA batteries to sustain your playing time
- Find the best design for your grip: ergonomic or traditional

GAMING SERVICES

Your local CE retailer provides some helpful services, both in-home and in-store, to enhance your gaming console. Specifically, the professionals can set up online connections, install system updates, and transfer data to a gaming storage device.

- Configure online accounts
- Console system updates
- Stream media from a PC to a gaming console
- Connect a console to a home-theater system

HOW TO BUY

A Refrigerator

What You Should Know

Samsung's RF4287
Four-Door Refrigerator
$2,999 | www.samsung.com

Find Your Type

Refrigerator types are broken down according to a model's freezer placement:

- Top-freezer models are broken horizontally with the freezer located above the fridge
- Bottom-freezer models are also split horizontally, but freezer access is located below the refrigerator door
- Side-by-side models are split in half vertically, with the freezer on the left side and fridge on the right
- French-door models have a top fridge compartment split vertically and a freezer located below
- If you want a fridge that sits flush with your kitchen cabinetry, look for a counter-depth model

Consider Capacity

To avoid wasted storage space and energy, select a fridge with the correct capacity:

- Households with one to three people should look for a fridge with no more than 11 cubic feet
- A family of four should opt for a model with at least 14 cubic feet
- If you have more than four people in your home, consider a fridge with 18 cubic feet or more

Energy Efficiency

Regardless of the refrigerator type you choose, you can save money with an Energy Star-qualified model:

- Energy Star models only use 435kWh and cost $48 to annually operate
- Models often feature LED lighting, self-adjusting thermostats, self-closing freezer doors, or alarms that go off when a fridge door is left open

Other Features

Depending on your daily use, you can find beneficial eatures such as:

- Specialized organization to accommodate gallon containers, pizza boxes, eggs, and more
- Digital temperature controls that allow you to maintain more accurate cooling levels
- In-door ice and water systems give you convenient access and typically make room for additional freezer space

More Innovation More Organization

French Door Refrigerators For Every Style & Space

Convenience, organization and innovative features—these are just some of the many benefits of owning an LG French door refrigerator. With plenty of ENERGY STAR® qualified options, LG refrigerators fit your lifestyle—and your kitchen—perfectly.

Convenient Configuration

The unique bottom freezer design virtually turned the refrigeration industry on its head. But LG French door refrigerators take that design one step further—for even more convenience. A wide selection gives you plenty of options—dispensing, non-dispensing, 3-door and 4-door models. The French doors allow you wide-open access for storing everything from pizza to party trays. Plus, the twin doors require less clearance to open, so they fit comfortably in tight spaces or opposite kitchen islands. Capacities range from the compact 20 cu. ft. to the ultra-large 28 cu. ft., so you'll get all the space you need.

LG 25 Cubic Foot French Door Refrigerator
LFX25978ST $2,499.99
LG 28 Cubic Foot Ultra Capacity 4-Door Refrigerator
LMX28988ST $2,999.99

LG Life's Good

Innovative Features

Like having ice but don't want to give up storage space to get it? The Slim SpacePlus™ ice system creates more usable shelf space by locating the ice maker on the door, and allowing full use of the entire height of the top shelf—without sacrificing door space. Select models also offer the industry's tallest dispenser*, so you can easily fill glasses, pitchers, coffee pots, water bottles, vases and more.

The Ultimate In Organization

Many models feature the 4-compartment crisper system that allows you to neatly store everything from party trays to fruits and vegetables. Double freezer drawers on 4-door models give you organized storage and easy access to the things you reach for often—while you also get plenty of space for things you don't.

LG Slim SpacePlus™ ice system gives you more usable shelf space and ice on demand.

Sleek Style

No matter what French door configuration you decide on, LG offers sleek finishes that are sure to fit your style. Choose from smooth black, smooth white or stainless steel, and make your kitchen as beautiful as it is functional. And for a sleek built-in look, the modern counter depth design option is also available.

*Compared to other leading ice & water French door refrigerators.

LG ENERGY STAR® Qualified French Door Refrigerators

4-Door French Door Dispensing			
Model	LMX25988ST	LMX25984ST	LMX28988ST
SKU	TBD	9794348	9818297
Stainless Reg. $*	$2,799.99	$2,599.99	$2,999.99
Black/White Reg. $*	$2,499.99	$2,299.99	$2,699.99
ENERGY STAR®	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cabinet Opening	33 inches	36 inches	36 inches
Capacity	25 cubic feet	25 cubic feet	28 cubic feet
Counter Depth		LMX21984ST	
Available Colors			

3-Door French Door Dispensing			
Model	LFX25978ST	LFX25976ST	LFX28978ST
SKU	TBD	9808272	9848949
Stainless Reg. $*	$2,499.99	$2,399.99	$2,699.99
Black/White Reg. $*	$2,199.99	$2,099.99	$2,399.99
ENERGY STAR®	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cabinet Opening	33 inches	36 inches	36 inches
Capacity	25 cubic feet	25 cubic feet	28 cubic feet
Counter Depth		LFX21976ST	
Available Colors			

3-Door French Door Non-Dispensing			
Model	LFC20760ST	LFC23760ST	LFC25776ST
SKU	8828049	8829743	TBD
Stainless Reg. $*	$1,499.99	$1,599.99	$1,799.99
Black/White Reg. $*	$1,199.99	$1,299.99	$1,499.99
ENERGY STAR®	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cabinet Opening	30 inches	33 inches	36 inches
Capacity	20 cubic feet	23 cubic feet	25 cubic feet
Counter Depth			LFC21776ST
Available Colors			

ENERGY STAR® qualified refrigerators have features that help save energy—that means you can save money on utility bills for the lifetime of the appliance.

Whether you're shopping for a specific style, size, finish or feature, LG offers a wide selection of ENERGY STAR® qualified French door refrigerators. Designed to fit your lifestyle and your space, LG has a refrigerator for everyone—and the perfect one for you.

The Key Features

- ICE & WATER DISPENSING
- ULTRA CAPACITY
- SLIM SPACEPLUS™ ICE SYSTEM
- COUNTER DEPTH AVAILABLE

LG Life's Good

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

NEW ARRIVAL

Freshness & Flexibility

Samsung's RF4287 Four-Door Refrigerator

Too many refrigerators are "one-feature-fits-all," leaving them unable to adjust to your family's needs. And if you're always multitasking, you need a refrigerator that can tackle more than your typical ice box. With its counter-height adjustable temperature mid-drawer and innovative cooling system, Samsung's Four-Door RF4287 ($2,999.99; www.samsung.com) was built with life's changing requirements in mind.

Flexible Features

The RF4287 can pull double duty helping you entertain on the weekends or feeding your family during the week, thanks to the FlexZone drawer, which:

- Provides four (or fewer) adjustable compartments to lodge serving dishes and food items of different shapes and sizes
- Sits at counter-top level with an EZ-Open Handle™ and opens separately from the fridge's exterior, so anyone in the family can grab a snack

Coolest Feature: The FlexZone drawer provides separate temperature settings and an adjustable divider to accommodate particular items that require different chill levels, such as cold drinks, deli meats, snacks, and party hors d'oeuvres.

Effortless Efficiency

The RF4287 has a handful of energy-efficient features, including:

- An alarm to let you know when the door isn't tightly closed
- Energy Star-qualified
- Interior energy-efficient LED lighting

The Right Amount Of Cool

The RF4287's Twin Cooling Plus system will save you time and money because:

- The refrigerator and freezer have separate airflows to keep the freezer air dry and to maintain a 75% humidity level in the refrigerator, keeping food fresher longer
- The Twin Cooling Plus system keeps your food fresh for longer periods of time, so you're able to make fewer trips to the grocery store and spend more time at home

Samsung RF4287 Highlights

- Spacious 28-cubic-foot interior
- FlexZone drawer with EZ-Open Handle™ and up to four flexible size compartments
- Twin Cooling Plus system keeps food fresher longer
- Sophisticated French, four-door design with your choice of a black, white, stainless platinum, or stainless steel exterior
- External filtered ice and water dispenser
- Bright interior LED lighting that's energy-efficient

Select The Right Samsung Refrigerator

With the number of technologically advanced refrigerators available from Samsung, you can select an appliance that fits your lifestyle needs and budget. To find the refrigerator that best suits your needs, consult the breakdown below for the advanced innovations and benefits that select Samsung refrigerators deliver.

Product Name SKU	RS261MD 9747165	RS265TD 9791769	RF266AE 9499027	RSG257AA 8763144	RF267AE 9510004	RFG297AA 8763153	RF4287HA 9790988
MSRP*	$1,099.99	$1,599.99	$1,799.99	$2,299.99	$2,399.99	$2,699.99	$2,999.99
Width	35-3/4	35-3/4	35-3/4	35-15/16	35-3/4	35-3/4	35-3/4
Height To Top Of Refrigerator	68-5/8	68-5/8	68-1/2	68-5/8	68-1/2	68-1/2	68-1/2
Height To Top Of Door Hinge	69-7/8	69-7/8	69-3/4	70	69-3/4	69-3/4	69-7/8
Counter Depth	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
Depth Less Door	29-5/8	29-5/8	29-1/8	23-5/8	29-1/8	29-1/8	29-7/8
Depth Without Handles	33-15/16	33-15/16	33	27-7/16	33	33	33-3/4
Depth Including Handles	36-1/2	36-1/2	35-5/8	30	35-5/8	35-5/8	36-1/4
Depth With Door 90° Open	46-3/16	46-3/16	47-3/4	45-7/16	47-3/4	47-3/4	48-5/8
Style	Side-by-side	Side-by-side	French door	Side-by-side	French door	French door	French door
Freezer Capacity	9.4 cubic feet	9.7 cubic feet	8.1 cubic feet	9.3 cubic feet	8.1 cubic feet	9 cubic feet	7.7 cubic feet
Food Capacity	16.2 cubic feet	15.8 cubic feet	17.7 cubic feet	15.2 cubic feet	17.4 cubic feet	19.5 cubic feet	20.3 cubic feet
Temperature Control Type	Graphic Display	Digital	Digital	Digital	Digital	Digital	Digital
Twin Cooling System	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Power Freeze & Power Cooling	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Child Lock	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Humidity-Controlled Crisper	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Energy Consumption (kWh/year)	543	502	462	560	519	550	562
Thru-The-Door Water Dispenser	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thru-The-Door Ice Dispenser	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other Colors	White, Stainless steel	Black	Black, White, Stainless steel	Black, White	Black, White	Black, White	Black
Weight	295 pounds	295 pounds	308 pounds	254 pounds	328 pounds	328 pounds	361 pounds
Other Features	Six temperature settings, two gallon door bins, and LED lighting	Two clear crisper drawers, Multi Air Flow technology, five clear door bins, and two gallon bins	Cool Select pantry drawer, freezer drawer with EZ-Open Handle, and five door bins	Six temperature sensors, egg container, wine rack, and gallon door bins	Cool Select pantry drawer and three gallon-size door bins	Surround Air Flow, three gallon-size door bins, and freezer door EZ-Open Handle	4 cubic foot Flex-Zone drawer, two gallon-size door bins, Surround Air Flow, and pizza pocket

All measurements are in inches.

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

Refrigeration That Saves You Time & Money

Frigidaire (www.frigidaire.com) is committed to designing high-performance appliances with effortless features that can help you get the job done quickly. Frigidaire refrigerators are also 10% to 80% more energy-efficient than non-Energy Star-qualified appliances. Below are some models that can help you save money and the environment.

FRIGIDAIRE

	Features	Highlighted Features	Also Available
Top Mount 18 Cubic Foot Refrigerator FFTR1814LW MSRP: $499* SKU: 8726284	• Store-More™ Humidity-Controlled Crisper Drawers and Gallon Door Shelf • Full-Width Freezer Shelf and Racks • Half-Width Freezer Shelf • Ready-Select™ Controls • Clear Dairy Door • Reversible Door	**SpaceWise Adjustable Wire Shelves.** Easily adjust shelves up and down to create more space for taller items.	FFTR1814LB
Top Mount 18 Cubic Foot Refrigerator FFHT1817LS MSRP: $649* SKU: 9793794	• Store-More™ Humidity-Controlled Crisper Drawers and Gallon Door Shelf • Full-Width Freezer Shelf and Racks • Ready-Select™ Controls • Cool Zone™ Drawer • Clear Dairy Door • Reversible Door • Stainless Steel Exterior	**ENERGY STAR.** Frigidaire ENERGY STAR refrigerators use 10% less energy; even less energy than it takes to run a 60 watt light bulb. This keeps more money in your pocket instead of the utility company's.	FFTR1814LM FFHT1814LW FFHT1814LB
Top Mount 21 Cubic Foot Refrigerator FFHT2117LB MSRP: $649* SKU: 9793685	• Store-More™ Humidity-Controlled Crisper Drawers and Gallon Door Shelf • Full-Width Freezer Shelf and Bins • Ready-Select™ Controls • Cool Zone™ Drawer • Clear Dairy Door • Reversible Door	**SpillSafe® Adjustable Glass Shelves.** Adjustable shelves are designed to keep spills contained, making cleanup a breeze.	FFHT1826LW
Top Mount 18 Cubic Foot Refrigerator FFHT1826LB MSRP: $679* SKU: 9793667	• Space-Wise Adjustable Glass Shelves • Store-More™ Humidity-Controlled Crisper Drawers and Gallon Door Shelf • Full- Width Freezer Shelf and Racks • Ready-Select™ Controls • Cool Zone™ Drawer • Clear dairy Door • Reversible Door	**Store-More™ Capacity.** Large Capacity refrigerator gives you room to store more. Store-More™ Organizational System includes gallon door bins, stacked drawers, and adjustable door bins to keep food organized and easy to find.	FFHT2117LW
Side-By-Side 26 Cubic Foot Refrigerator† BFHS2611LM MSRP: $899* SKU: 9830623	• PureSource3® Water Filtration • Store-More™ Humidity-Controlled Crisper Drawers and Gallon Door Bins • Spill-Safe® Shelves • Energy-Saver™ Plus Technology • Ready-Select™ Controls • Store-More™ Capacity	**Silver Mist Finish.** Unique Silver Mist finish reduces finger prints and smudges so it's easy to clean.	FFHS2611LW FFHS2611LB
Side-By-Side 26 Cubic Foot Refrigerator† FFUS2613LS MSRP: $1,099* SKU: 9793721	• PureSource3® Water Filtration • Store-More™ Humidity-Controlled Crisper Drawers and Gallon Door Bins • Spill-Safe® Shelves • Energy-Saver™ Plus Technology • Ready-Select™ Controls • Store-More™ Capacity • Stainless Steel Exterior	**Highest ENERGY STAR Rating.** Frigidaire's selection of Tier 3 ENERGY STAR-certified refrigerators are 30% more efficient than the federal standard. That saves more energy and more money on utility bills.	FFUS2613LPF FUS2613LEF FUS2613LM

† Standard depth model.

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

Less Is More

Your older washer and dryer may get the grime off soccer socks, but newer units can, too, but with added benefits. High-efficiency front-loading and top-loading washing machines require less water, and as a result, they use less energy to heat that water, which can lower your energy bill. A more efficient washer spin cycle means the dryer can do its job faster, which lets you dry more loads in less time and cut your energy costs even further.

Evolved Appliances

Bring Your Kitchen & Laundry Room Into The 21st Century

You expect your electronics to be obsolete in a few years, but the major appliance you bought five years ago is still running like the day you bought it. Sadly, the day you bought it was five years ago, and you might be surprised by how much appliances have changed since then.

Good For The Earth & For You

Energy Star-qualified appliances and small electronics adhere to strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy, which means you can purchase with confidence when you see the Energy Star logo. Updating just five- or 10-year-old appliances and electronics can significantly decrease the amount of energy you use and lead to cost savings.

Hot Stuff

Older ovens with a self-cleaning function can really make a dent in your energy budget. But some new models have a steam-cleaning capability, which cleans with water instead of excessive temperatures or harsh cleaners. And now, microwaves are considerably more energy efficient, so getting a more capable model can improve your energy savings, as well.

Dish This

Forget prewashing. An Energy Star-qualified dishwasher can do all the work for you, and it can save gallons of water. New rack designs maximize exposure, and more efficient jets can clean your dishes using less energy.

Cooler Than Ever

Most new refrigerators utilize advanced compressors and more insulation, which means they save energy, keep food cold and fresh for longer, and run quieter than older fridges.

BY ANDREW LEIBMAN

Hoover

Floorcare

As America's iconic home cleaning brand, Hoover® has been keeping The Standard For Clean Set On HIGH™ for more than 100 years and 2010 is no exception. If you haven't used a Hoover lately, now is the time….this is definitely NOT your grandmother's Hoover!

WINDTUNNEL SERIES WindTunnel® Rewind™ Bagless Upright

MSRP: $129.99 SKU: 9497699

Hoover®'s WindTunnel® T-Series™ bagless upright vacuums combines a sleek, lightweight design with superior cleaning power. These products make thorough cleaning simple, at a practical price. These vacuums feature patented Hoover® Wind-Tunnel® technology that removes embedded dirt* and minimizes blowback or scatter on carpet. While each model is lightweight, each offers all the power needed to get floors truly clean with no loss of suction**.

Features Include:

- Lightweight Design—Only 16.5 pounds
- WindTunnel® technology
- Cord Rewind with 27′ Cord
- Intuitive Power Controls
- Rinsable filter and high-quality filter made with HEPA media (neither filter needs to be replaced during the warranty period with proper care)
- No Scuff Bumper
- 5 Position Carpet Height Adjustment
- 8′ Stretch Hose
- System Check Indicator
- Easy Belt Change System & Brushroll Access
- Limited 2-year warranty

*Per ASTM F608
**Per IEC 60312 4th Edition, Clause 2.9. Test results within accepted variability tolerance of 5%.

Hoover LiNX™ Cordless Stick Vacuum

MSRP: $179.99 SKU: 9025253

The LiNX™ Cordless Stick Vacuum with Fade Free* Lithium-Ion rechargeable battery transforms daily hard floor cleaning with cordless convenience and upright performance**. You'll have no need for a dustpan and broom with this versatile stick vacuum in the kitchen. The fingertip power controls and brushroll on/off switch, edge cleaning bristles, low profile and extreme recline handle allow for effortless cleaning, even under furniture.

The LiNX™ Cordless Stick Vacuum features a Cyclonic Filtration System, which cleans the air moving through the filter, as well as patented Hoover® WindTunnel® technology that removes embedded dirt***, and gets floors truly clean in a snap.

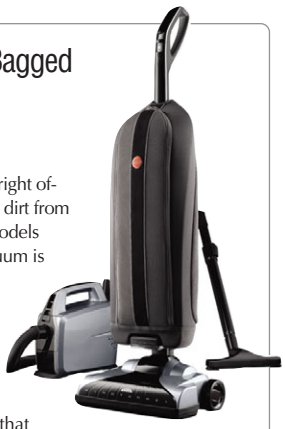
Features Include:

- LiNX™ Cordless Fade-Free* Lithium-Ion Battery System
- Powered Brushroll with WindTunnel® Technology
- Intuitive Power Controls
- Fuel Gauge
- Edge Cleaning Bristles
- Wide Cleaner Mouth
- Low Profile Base
- Extreme Recline Handle
- Bottom Release Dirt Cup
- Limited 2-year warranty

*Based on battery voltage
**On hard floors, per ASTM F2607; On carpet, per ASTM F2609
***Per ASTM F608

Hoover® Platinum Lightweight Bagged Upright and Portable Canister

MSRP: $299.99 SKU: 9025271



The Hoover® Platinum Lightweight Bagged Upright offers superior cleaning power that removes more dirt from carpet, than other lightweight bagged upright models tested*. Weighing less than 12 pounds, the vacuum is easy to move from room to room, upstairs and down, with little effort. The included Hoover® Platinum Portable Canister has a convenient shoulder strap, stretch hose and on-board tools for all your above floor cleaning needs.

The Lightweight Bagged Upright features patented Hoover® WindTunnel® technology that removes embedded dirt* and minimizes blowback or scatter on carpet, with all the power needed to get floors truly clean.

Features Include:

- Lightweight Design—Less than 12 pounds
- WindTunnel® technology
- Intuitive Power Controls with high/low speed control
- Easy-Change bag made with HEPA media
- Self-Sealing Bag
- Bag Check Indicator
- Extra-Long 35′ Power Cord
- No Scuff Bumper
- Edge Cleaning Channels
- Auto Height Adjustment
- Limited 6-year warranty

*Per ASTM F608

Hoover® FloorMate™ Hard Floor Cleaner

MSRP: $149.99 SKU: 9878889

The new Hoover® FloorMate™ Hard Floor Cleaner with SpinScrub® technology is the ultimate 3-in-1 cleaner that vacuums, washes and dries hard floors with one simple tool unlike any steam mop or mopping systems on the market. The FloorMate™ Cleaner's two-tank system keeps clean and dirty water separate so you never put dirty water back on the floor, and the exclusive Hoover® patented SpinScrub® technology with counter-rotating brushes gently scrub from all angles to get sealed hardwood, tile and vinyl floors truly clean. Quick-drying power gets the water off of floors quickly so you can get back to living on them in minutes.

Features Include:

- New Multi-Purpose SpinScrub® Technology
- Dual Tank Technology
- Quick Drying Power
- 13″ Wide Cleaning Path
- Removable nozzles and brushes
- Beltless design
- Folding Handle
- Rubber Wheels
- Limited 1-year warranty

Dirt Devil

Floorcare

Dirt Devil has been providing quality cleaning tools for families for more than 20 years. With spirit and style to spare, Dirt Devil proves that when it comes to vacuuming, redder is definitely better!

Dirt Devil® Fantasy Tattoo Canisters

MSRP: $79.99 SKU: 9878816

Introducing the Fantasy Tattoo Canister, the only vacuum in the Dirt Devil family designed in a variety of colors. Available for a limited time exclusively at Best Buy stores and on BestBuy.com, this stylish Pink Bouquet canister provides a lightweight, yet powerful clean in an easy to use machine—the hallmark of all Dirt Devil® vacuums. All colors are available for purchase on BestBuy.com.

Features Include:

- Variable Speed Control
- Extension Wand
- 11″ Nozzle
- Automatic Cord Rewind
- Full Bag Indicator
- 20′ Cord
- 10 Amps
- Limited 1-year warranty
- On-Board Tools: Dusting Brush and Crevice Tool

Dirt Devil® AccuCharge Stick Vacuum

MSRP: $59.99 SKU: 9501185

The Dirt Devil AccuCharge Stick Vacuum is lightweight yet powerful and perfect for quick pickups on both carpet and hardwood. This convenient vac features a swivel head for easing cleaning around furniture and is complete with a folding handle to make storage a snap.

Features Include:

- Energy Star certified
- Lightweight Design—only 5.85 lbs.
- Swivel Head
- Folding Handle
- Bagless Convenience
- Motorized Brush Roll
- 15.6 Volts of power
- Limited 2-year warranty

Dirt Devil® Gator Cordless Hand Vacuum

MSRP: $49.99 SKU: 9497626

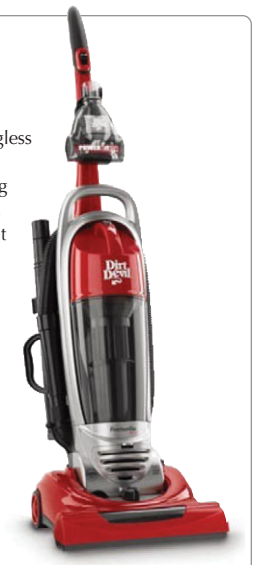
Introducing the new Dirt Devil® Gator Cordless Hand Vacuum, designed for the way people clean with a user-friendly, comfortable handle that is already in the right position for proper cleaning. A "pop and drop" dirt cup means users can simply push the two side buttons to release it—no parts, no mess—just clean hands. Plus, each unit comes with a built-in crevice tool that easily pulls out to get into tight spaces. Available in the signature Dirt Devil® red, its sleek, cordless design makes it the perfect tool for fast pick-ups on any surface.

Features Include:

- Easy-Use Dirt Cup
- Lightweight Design—only 5.2 lbs.
- Brush Roll Attachment
- Sleek Design
- Built-in Crevice Tool
- Energy Star Rated
- 15.6 Volts
- Limited 3-year warranty

Featherlite® Bagless Upright

MSRP: $69.99 SKU: 9877826



Introducing the new Dirt Devil® Featherlite Bagless Vacuum, a compact upright with full power. Weighing in at less than 15 pounds, the carrying handle makes it easy to take up a flight of stairs, and a Multi-Height Adjustment setting enables it to clean all flooring types efficiently. When the job is done, a Bottom Empty Dirt Cup makes it easy to clean out for the next big job, and its folding handle simplifies storage.

Features Include:

- Folding Handle
- Lightweight Design—only 14.65 lbs.
- Brush View Window
- Rinsable Filtration
- Multi-Height Adjustment
- Bottom Empty Dirt Cup
- No Scuff Bumper
- 25′ Power Cord
- 12.0 Amps of power
- Limited 1-year warranty
- Includes on-board tools, hose, and turbo tool

Dirt Devil

eureka!
Invented for the way you clean™

No More Pet Peeves

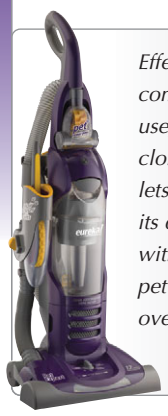
Eureka's Pet Model Vacuums Remove Hair & Odors

Our dogs, cats, and other critters are part of our families. But thanks to Eureka (eureka.com), their fallen fur and special smells don't have to be part of our households.

Pet Expert 3276BVZ

MSRP: $119.99 | SKU: 9840425

- Hair Raiser Pet self-cleaning brush lets you touch up upholstery while leaving your vacuum in the closet
- PET Power Paw® attachment loosens, grabs, and vacuums away hair
- HEPA charcoal filter reduces odors as it traps dust and pollen



Effective and comfortable to use, this cyclonic model lets you empty its dust chamber without getting pet dander all over your hands.

The Boss® SmartVac™ Pet Lover 4870SZ

MSRP: $149.99 | SKU: 9533187

- A sealed vacuum path ensures that all airflow passes through the HEPA filter
- Odor eliminating bag eliminates pet odors and captures allergy causing pet dander
- On/Off brushroll switch and multi-position height adjust allow you to easily pick up pet hair and litter from any surface

Equipped with powerful suction and tools to get the job done. Reduce pet dander with the Sealed HEPA Filter System and eliminate pet odors with the Odor Eliminating Bag

Pet Lover Plus 8863AVZ

MSRP: $169.99 | SKU: 9840434

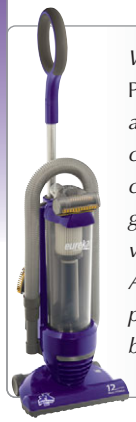
- Dual Powered Edge Cleaners™ vacuum the baseboards so you don't have to
- Whirlwind® Cyclonic Technology forces large debris away from the filter to maintain suction
- Its self-cleaning dust brush telescopes to reach up high

A sealed HEPA filtration path gives this Eureka an edge in any animal lover's home. Break out the Pet Power Paw for those favorite sleeping spots.

Pet Lover Oh! 439AZ

MSRP: $79.99 | SKU: 8893129

- Telescopic Comfort-Grip handle lets you adjust its height with 13 settings
- Empty its dust cup without a mess thanks to Eureka's Pet Combo Tool
- An allergen charcoal filter catches the smells and fur you could do without



With a PET Power Paw® *attachment and a slim 11-inch cleaning path, this compact Pet Lover goes where other vacuums don't. And at less than 12 pounds, it's usable by anyone.*

Powerline Networking

Consumer electronics devices are connecting to the Web to bring all kinds of new features to traditional devices, such as audio and video streams to your home theater, Internet-based weather reports to radios and stereos, photo-sharing to digital photo frames, and more. But things get tricky when it comes to networking these devices, which are often distributed throughout the house.

Wireless is great, but only the latest wireless networking gear can handle the high bandwidth of HD content. Using wired Ethernet is a more reliable and robust means, but installing an Ethernet jack in every room could be pricey and labor-intensive. But with a powerline network, you can keep your connected devices online without knocking holes in your walls or upgrading your entire home network. Read on to find out how powerline networking combines the bandwidth of wired networks with the ease of use required for a Wi-Fi network.

Online Outlets

A powerline network relies on another kind of network that all homes already include by default, the power network. The electrical system in your home consists of one or more fuse boxes and copper wiring that runs between each power outlet to give your electronics the current they require to operate. A powerline network simply taps into this existing network and uses the copper wiring to pass data bits between powerline network adapters. Powerline adapters utilize a technology called OFDM (orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing), which enables the copper wiring to carry multiple data streams even while powering appliances and devices throughout your home. The latest devices also work independent of line voltage and current frequency to provide a consistent and reliable networking experience.

This Internet access solution makes a lot of sense because there's always an outlet near the computer and another outlet near the Internet-enabled devices you'll likely be using. And if you can plug in a power adapter and an Ethernet cable, you can install and configure a powerline network yourself in minutes.

Powerline Particulars

To build your own powerline network, all you need is a pair of powerline network adapters, which are typically sold in pairs. Do note that you'll need an additional powerline adapter for each additional device you want to connect to the network beyond the first device. Installation generally involves

plugging a powerline adapter into a wall outlet near the PC and running a short length of Ethernet cable between the powerline adapter and your router. To complete the network setup, simply plug a second powerline network adapter (which will be the same brand and model as the powerline adapter plugged in near the PC) into an outlet near the Internet-enabled device, such as a gaming console in the home theater, and run a short length of Ethernet cable between the device and the adapter.

Powerline's Pros

Powerline networking's biggest benefit for users is that it requires no new wires to work. And it's no bandwidth slouch either; powerline networking equipment that adheres to the HomePlug AV specification can handle bandwidth-hungry HD video content streaming between 200Mbps and up to 1,000Mbps. Because power lines can be shared between businesses and homes, many powerline adapters have built-in encryption that lets you secure data traffic with the touch of a button.

Powerline adapters are generally compatible with any device that communicates over a standard Ethernet port, such as desktop and notebook PCs, game consoles, DVRs, network storage devices, set-top boxes, Web-enabled TVs, and more. Some powerline adapters also provide power, freeing up an outlet for another device.

Additional features you'll find on powerline networking equipment include an auto detection capability, which makes setting up a powerline network plug-and-play simple, and an auto sensor capability, which automatically configures the network speed based on current conditions.

Networking Simplified

Powerline networks offer many of the same benefits you'll experience with other networking technologies with few of the drawbacks. In fact, you might say powerline is the network lifeline your home theater has been longing for all along. FG

Netgear's Powerline AV Ethernet Adapter Kit

You already know how easy it is to build a powerline network, but with Netgear's Powerline AV Ethernet Adapter Kit (Model XAVB101: $129.99; www.netgear.com), you get loads of features that make getting your Internet-capable devices online easy, no matter where in your home they reside.

The Netgear Powerline AV Ethernet Adapter Kit, as its name suggests, relies on the HomePlug AV specification, meaning it is designed to handle the bandwidth and quality of service demands of home-theater applications. These units support a data rate of up to 200Mbps, which is enough to transmit visually stunning HD video to your home-theater equipment without a hiccup. The kit includes a pair of Netgear powerline Ethernet adapters, a 5-foot length of Ethernet cable, and a setup CD. Each unit features three tri-color LEDs that indicate data rate and connectivity, so you know at a glance if they're online. With the touch of a button, you can enable 128-bit AES data encryption to make sure everything that travels over the network is safe from prying eyes. These powerline adapters can supply connected devices with both network connectivity and power, as is the case with some wireless routers. This kit is generally capable of creating a powerline network in up to 5,000 square-foot homes. ●

Take Your Tech Outside

Most consumer electronics are meant to be used inside, but during the summer months, you and your family spend most of your time outside. The following devices are meant to be taken outside and include features that can enhance the time you spend in the great outdoors.

Garmin Dakota 20

Never lose your way with a ruggedized outdoor GPS device that can record waypoints as you go.

$349.99

Motorola Talkabout Two-Way Radios

Keep in touch with the rest of your party while hiking up a fourteener or camping in a national park.

$67.99

Charbroil Grill 2 Go

Grill on the go in portable style, whether you're camping, tailgating, or on a picnic.

$199.99

Insignia Outdoor speakers

Take your favorite tunes outside to play during a Fourth of July party or summer BBQ.

$99.97

h2o Audio Waterproof Earbuds

Listen to your favorite music while doing laps at the local outdoor pool or laying out at a waterpark.

$49.99

Kodak Playsport

With a waterproof camcorder, you can capture video footage of your kids playing at the beach for the first time.

$179.99

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